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ABSTRACT

In 2002, the Bush administration adopted the Children's Defense Fund's (CDF's) mission to "Leave No Child Behind" as a motto. This report details the CDF's assessment of the state of children in the United States, examines how the Bush administration has translated the President's promise to "leave no child behind," and lays out the CDF vision of what the President, Congress, state and local officials, and all Americans can do to ensure that we leave no child behind. The report's foreword summarizes information presented in the report on the state of U.S. children and the Bush administration's track record. The foreword also recommends freezing the tax cut for the top one percent of American earners and delineates steps to support the movement to Leave No Child Behind. The remainder of the report is presented in three parts. Part 1, "America's Fifth Child," presents nine stories about the one in five children who live in poverty, with accompanying charts and boxes to illustrate how poverty harms children. Part 2 presents information on the Movement and Act to Leave No Child Behind, endorsing the Dodd-Miller "Act to Leave No Child Behind" over the Bush administration "No Child Left Behind" education bill. This part also provides information on the initiatives of the CDF's Movement to Leave No Child Behind. Part 3 focuses on the state of children in the United States, identifying the 10 best and worst states on key child indicators related to child well-being. Data tables are also provided delineating information for each state and the District of Columbia on the number of children and key indicators of child well-being. The report concludes with information on data sources. (KB)

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THE STATE OF CHILDREN IN AMERICA'S UNION

A 2002 ACTION GUIDE TO LEAVE NO CHILD BEHIND®

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2A

HUNGRY CHILD, I DID NOT MAKE THIS WORLD FOR YOU.

YOU DIDN'T BUY STOCK IN MY CORPORATION. YOU DIDN'T INVEST IN MY MUTUAL FUND
WHERE WERE YOU WHEN MY COMPANY WENT PUBLIC?
I MADE THE WORLD FOR THE RICH
AND THE WILL BE RICH AND THE HAVE ALWAYS BEEN RICH
NOT FOR YOU, HUNGRY CHILD

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Children's Defense Fund

Mission of the Children's Defense Fund

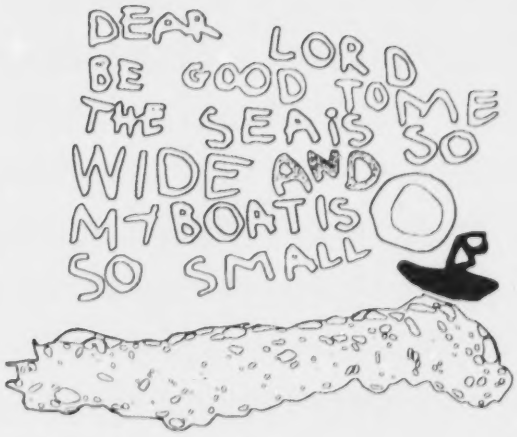
The mission of the Children's Defense Fund is to Leave No Child Behind® and to ensure every child a *Healthy Start*, a *Head Start*, a *Fair Start*, a *Safe Start*, and a *Moral Start* in life and successful passage to adulthood with the help of caring families and communities.

CDF provides a strong, effective voice for *all* the children of America who cannot vote, lobby, or speak for themselves. We pay particular attention to the needs of poor and minority children and those with disabilities. CDF educates the nation about the needs of children and encourages preventive investment before they get sick, into trouble, drop out of school, or suffer family breakdown.

CDF began in 1973 and is a private, nonprofit organization supported by foundation and corporate grants, and individual donations. We have never taken government funds.

THE STATE OF CHILDREN IN AMERICA'S UNION

A 2002 ACTION GUIDE TO LEAVE NO CHILD BEHIND®



How to Use This Action Guide for Children

Please use this Action Guide to educate yourself and others about how our nation can make more just choices to truly Leave No Child Behind® and to hold ourselves and our leaders accountable for protecting children. If you share our vision for children and our call for new, national choices that put children's needs first, please use the information and other resources in this Action Guide to work in your community, state, and nationally. Learn more about how to join the Movement to Leave No Child Behind and about the comprehensive Act to Leave No Child Behind (S. 940/ H.R. 1990). Encourage others to join you. Meet some of the children who have been left behind in the pages that follow and gather stories from your own community and share them with us and others. Look at the state tables to see how children in your state are faring and how your state ranks with other states on how well it protects children on the lists of "best" and "worst" states. Every single individual can make a difference. Please become a persistent, visible witness for children wherever you live.

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This book is dedicated to the memory of

Lisa Sullivan, one of the most gifted organizers of her generation, former director of CDF's Black Community Crusade for Children's Black Student Leadership Network, and of CDF's field division, and Founder and Executive Director of LISTEN!

John Gardner, a great American leader, citizen, and mentor who founded Common Cause, Independent Sector, and the National Urban Coalition.

Reverend Beverly Cosby, extraordinary servant leader and man of God who founded the Church of the Covenant and other ministries in Lynchburg, Virginia and co-partner in the wonderful Church of the Saviour Ministries.

Langston Hughes, the great Black poet, author, and children's book writer whose 100th birthday we celebrate in 2002. His poem, "Hungry Child," graces our cover and Leave No Child Behind public education campaign.

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FOREWORD

Perhaps we cannot prevent this world from being a world in which children are tortured. But we can reduce the number of tortured children... I continue to struggle against this universe in which children suffer and die.

Albert Camus speaking at a Dominican Monastery in 1948

The test of the morality of a society is what it does for its children.

Dietrich Bonhoeffer, German Protestant theologian

In his 2002 State of the Union address, President George W. Bush asserted that the state of our union has never been stronger. CDF believes that the state of children in our union does not live up to the ideals of our great nation. During his presidential campaign, President Bush adopted the Children's Defense Fund's (CDF) trademarked mission to Leave No Child Behind® as his motto. He and members of his administration frequently repeated this promise throughout his first year of office. This is the Children's Defense Fund's assessment of the state of children in our nation; how the Bush administration has translated the President's promises to Leave No Child Behind; and our vision of what the President, Congress, state and local officials, and all Americans can do to ensure we *truly* Leave No Child Behind®.

The State of Children in America's Union

The state of millions of children in the richest most powerful democratic nation in the world is morally shameful, economically costly, and politically hypocritical.

- An American child is reported abused or neglected every 11 seconds; 581,000 children are in our foster care system – 127,000 of them are waiting for adoptive families.
- An American child is born into poverty every 43 seconds; one in five children is poor during the first three years of life – the time of greatest brain development.
- An American child is born without health insurance every minute – 90 percent of our nine million uninsured children live in working families.
- An American child or teen is killed by gunfire every 2 hours and 40 minutes – nine every day; 87,000 children and teens have been killed by guns since 1979. It is safer to be an on-duty law enforcement officer than a child under 10 in America.
- Millions of American children start school not ready to learn, and millions more lack safe, affordable, quality child care and early childhood education when their parents work.

- A majority of American fourth graders can't read or do math at a proficient level.
- Seven million children are home alone on a regular basis without adult supervision often after school when they are at greatest risk of getting into trouble.
- Nearly 12 million children are poor, and millions are hungry, at risk of hunger, living in worst case housing, or homeless. Almost 80 percent of poor children live in working households.

These facts are not acts of God. They are our moral and political choices as Americans. We can change them. We have the money. We have the power. We have the know-how. We have the experience. We have the vision. And we have the moral and social responsibility. What we lack is the civic and spiritual engagement of enough citizens, and political, faith, and media leaders to pierce the profound lack of awareness about and indifference to preventable and solvable child suffering; the poisonous politics of self-interest and greed; narrow ideological agendas which reflect the belief that government should help the rich and powerful most and the poor and powerless least; and the political hypocrisy of leaders at all levels of government and in all parties who leave millions of children behind while pretending to do otherwise.

These facts represent real children, each a sacred gift of God, a member of our American and human family and future, who face daily life and death terrors and perils we can prevent and alleviate by making more just choices in our rich, powerful nation. We share a few of the stories of our invisible children in Part I. They are just the tip of the iceberg of child suffering that will sink our ship of state and nation's soul if we do not change course.

The Bush Administration's Track Record in Leaving No Child Behind

The Bush administration's budget choices before and after September 11th leave millions of children behind; favor powerful corporate interests and the wealthiest taxpayers over children's urgent needs; widen the gap between rich and poor—already at its largest recorded point in over 30 years; and repeatedly break promises and fail to seize opportunities to Leave No Child Behind®. While thousands of children, parents, and grandparents stand in unemployment and soup kitchen and homeless shelter lines waiting for food and a stable place to live all across America, lobbyists for powerful corporations like Enron and rich individuals and special interests line up inside Congress and the White House to get hundreds of billions of dollars in new tax breaks and government handouts.

Follow the money and you find what we truly care about and stand for as a nation. Budgets represent moral and social choices not just economic ones. They are a test of what we value as a people. Children cannot eat promises, be sheltered from the cold by photo-ops, escape poverty through eloquent speeches about compassion, or get the child

Who Benefits from the Bush Administration Tax Cut Plan?

Income Group	Average Income	Average Total Tax Cut	Percent of Total Tax Cut
Top 1%	$1,117,000	$53,123	37.6%
Next 4%	210,000	3,345	9.5
Next 15%	97,400	2,234	23.7
Next 20%	56,400	1,026	14.5
Middle 20%	34,400	600	8.5
Second 20%	20,600	375	5.3
Lowest 20%	9,300	66	0.9

Note: Figures are given at 2001 income levels, with the tax plan fully in place. Totals include both the income tax reductions and the repeal of the estate tax.

Source: Citizens for Tax Justice

Over 10 years, those in the top one percent will get $475 billion more than those in the lowest 20 percent.

Choices: Investments for Children or Tax Cuts for the Wealthy*

For the money we will spend on the $1.3 trillion Bush tax cut plan passed by Congress and signed by the President in June 2001, America could:

- Provide every uninsured child health coverage; *and*
- Provide Head Start, preschool, and quality child care for every eligible child who needs it; *and*
- Help rebuild crumbling schools and reduce classroom sizes in the early years when children need a solid basic skills foundation; *and*
- Help 10 million needy individuals, mostly in families with children, get food stamps; *and*
- Provide housing vouchers to the 3.6 million children living in families with the "worst case" housing needs (paying more than half their income on rent or living in severely substandard housing); *and*
- Help provide services to protect millions of abused and neglected children

*CDF calculations based on Joint Committee on Tax, Citizens for Tax Justice, and Center on Budget and Policy Priorities tax estimates.

care assistance they need right now to be safe and ready for school when parents work with crumbs from America's table of plenty.

- The Bush administration hails Head Start as the nation's "premier early childhood education program." Yet its first budget would have cut 2,500 children from Head Start if Congress had not added more money. Under the second Bush administration budget, not even one more child will get a Head Start. Currently, only three in five preschoolers eligible for Head Start are served. Less than five percent of eligible infants and toddlers get Early Head Start during their years of crucial brain, emotional, and social development.

- "The biggest percentage of our budget should go to our children's education. Education is my top priority, " President Bush said in February 2001. His 2002 budget then proposed 40 times more money for tax cuts than for education, according to the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities.

- In January 2002, with great fanfare, the President signed his "No Child Left Behind" (H.R. 1) education reform bill and "vowed to make educating every child his number one domestic priority...." The administration's 2003 budget then proposed the smallest education increase in the last seven years. Representative George Miller, a lead sponsor with Senator Christopher Dodd of the comprehensive Act to Leave No Child Behind (S. 940/H.R. 1990), which CDF strongly supports, and a key congressional leader on President Bush's far less comprehensive "No Child Left Behind" (H.R. 1) education reform bill, said: "The administration continues to say that education is a top priority, but the budget says something different. The President's budget breaks the promise he made to our public schools...when he signed the historic new education bill into law...the budget lets down poor children by cutting funding increases for the program nearly 50 percent." On April 6, 2002, Senator Edward Kennedy, a lead sponsor of the Bush education reform bill, said: "With the President's cuts in education, six million needy children will be left behind. One in every five students will attend a school that's unsafe or crumbling. There's not one dollar in the President's budget to rebuild and modernize America's schools....It's time to match reform in education with resources for education."

- In his inaugural address, President Bush rightly and eloquently declared "that deep, persistent poverty is unworthy of our nation's promise." He then proposed to double the child tax credit from $500 to $1,000 in his proposed $1.6 trillion tax cut plan but only for upper and middle income families. He failed to seize the opportunity to turn his words into reality for two of the

Children Can't Wait
They Need Safe, Quality Child Care Right Now While Parents Work

As of December 2001, states with large waiting lists for child care assistance included:

Alabama	5,089 children
Arkansas	8,000 children
California	280,000 children*
District of Columbia	9,124 children
Florida	46,800 children
Georgia	16,099 children
Indiana	11,958 children
Maine	2,000 children
Massachusetts	18,000 children
Minnesota	4,735 children
Mississippi	10,422 children
North Carolina	25,363 children
Tennessee	9,388 children
Texas	36,799 children

*Based on estimated unmet need

nearly 12 million poor children immediately by making the child tax credit *fully refundable* as the comprehensive Act to Leave No Child Behind proposes. Instead, his tax cut proposal left almost 17 million children behind including a majority of Black and Latino children. Thanks to a bipartisan effort in Congress, a *partially refundable* child tax credit was included in the final tax bill. It will lift 500,000 children in low-income working families out of poverty by providing $8 billion to them annually when fully phased in.

- The Bush administration says it is important for families to work, a value we share. However, its welfare proposals require more hours of work from poor parents but its 2003 budget provides not one dime more for child care. In fact by the end of five years, 114,000 fewer children in working families will get federal child care assistance if the Bush budget proposals prevail, although only one in seven eligible children is currently served through the Child Care and Development Block Grant (CCDBG).

- On April 2, 2002, President Bush called for "another essential step" in education reform to train and support parents, Head Start, child care, and early childhood teachers to help children get ready for school. While we share the President's goal to help children start school ready to learn and succeed, the Bush preschool literacy proposal is very high in rhetoric and very low in resources. In announcing its new initiative, the Bush administration also incorrectly pronounced that "most parents are able to make adequate child care arrangements" and indicated there was no need for additional state and federal child care and Head Start investments. It is unlikely that the hundreds of thousands of children in poor and moderate income families languishing on very long waiting lists for federal and state child care assistance or the thousands of poor children who are deprived of Head Start or an Early Head Start experience would agree!

- At the 2000 Republican National Convention, Secretary of State Colin Powell correctly said: "We are obliged to make sure that every child gets a healthy start in life. With all of our wealth and capacity, we just can't stand by idly." The Bush administration's 2002 and 2003 budgets leave millions of uninsured children behind including legal immigrant children and thousands of children with disabilities whose parents cannot get them needed treatment.

Costs of $1.3 Trillion Bush Tax Cut Plan Enacted by Congress

Estimated Cost of Tax Bill	$552 billion over 6 years (2001-2006) $1.35 trillion over 11 years (2001-2011)[1]
Projected Cost of Tax Bill Over Second 10 Years	$4.1 trillion[2]
Annual total cost of tax bill when fully phased in	$184 billion a year[3]
Annual total cost of tax cut for top 1% of taxpayers ($1.1 million average income) when fully phased in	$69.1 billion a year (38% of total tax cut)[4]
Average annual tax cut for top 1% of taxpayers ($1.1 million average income) when fully phased in	$53,123 a year[5]
Estimated cost of estate/gift provisions	$24.9 billion over 5 years (2002-2006) $138 billion over 10 years (2002-2011)[6]
Annual total cost of estate/gift tax provisions when fully phased in	$34.9 billion a year[7]
Annual total cost of estate tax cut for top 1% of taxpayers ($1.1 million average income) when fully phased in	$31.8 billion a year[8]
Average estate tax cut for top 1% of taxpayers ($1.1 million average income) when fully phased in	$24,401[9]
Number of taxpayers benefiting from estate/gift tax provisions	Fewer than 50,000 a year, or about 2% or less of deaths,[10] which benefits estates averaging $8.3 million

[1] Joint Committee on Taxation, Summary of Provisions Contained in the Conference Agreement for H.R. 1836, the Economic Growth and Tax Relief Reconciliation Act of 2001 (May 26, 2001) JCX-50-01. Figures assume all tax cuts are sunsetted after calendar 2010 and exclude $0.4 trillion in interest costs.

[2] Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, June 27, 2001, estimates.

[3] Citizens for Tax Justice (CTJ), Final Version of Bush Tax Cut Plan Keeps High-End Tax Cuts, Adds to Long-Term Costs (May 26, 2001). Figures are in 2001 dollars.

[4] *Ibid.*

[5] *Ibid.*

[6] *Supra note 1.*

[7] *Supra note 3.*

[8] *Supra note 3.*

[9] Calculated by CDF using CTJ numbers (2001 dollars).

[10] Based on Joint Committee on Taxation, Present Law and Background of Federal Tax Provisions Relating to Retirement Savings Incentives, Health and Long-Term Care, and Estate and Gift Taxes. June 15, 1999.

- Despite many urgent unmet children's needs, the 2002 Bush administration budget proposed to guarantee $1.6 trillion in new tax cuts primarily to benefit the wealthy. It provided only $2.8 billion in net increased spending in a wide range of key discretionary children's programs. At the same time, it cut and froze far more children's programs than the few it increased with: $3.1 billion in budget *cuts* in 14 children's programs (including child abuse, early childhood, and maternal and child health); budget *freezes* in 21 children's programs (including after school programs, and services to train youths for jobs and prevent juvenile delinquency); and increases *below inflation* in eight child and youth programs (including adoption, mental health, and AIDS prevention services). This means fewer children would receive vital services.

- Despite growing parental unemployment, child hunger, and homelessness, the 2003 Bush administration budget proposed to accelerate and make permanent their $1.3 trillion tax cut passed by Congress but proposed a net increase of only $2.1 billion for a wide range of discretionary children's programs. Again in a budget shell game it cut and froze many children's programs while increasing a few with: *$1.4 billion in proposed cuts* in 13 programs for children and youth, and *freezes* in 29 children's programs including child care, after school, child health, mental health, and education for homeless children. (See budget charts pp. xxi.)

Parents working and playing by the rules should not have to choose between making a living and the safety and school readiness of their children. You cannot look for or keep a job if you don't have child care, especially if you are a single parent. You may lose your job if your child is sick and you have to stay home or take her to a doctor. You can't hold it all together—children, home, and work—if you get sick, your child, spouse, or babysitter gets sick, if you don't have child care and health care. You can't make it to your low-wage job in a rural area if it's far away, you don't have child care, a car, and there's no public transportation system. If you have to go to work today and tomorrow morning, being on a waiting list with thousands of others doesn't help. Even if you and your spouse are both working at minimum wage jobs which pay at most $21,400 before taxes, you can't afford child care, housing, transportation, and utilities. In 48 states, center-based child care in urban areas averages more than public college tuition.

Choices: Leave No Child Behind—Preventive Investments that Save Money

Every $1 we spend vaccinating children against measles, mumps, and rubella saves $16 in medical costs to treat those illnesses.

Every $1 invested in the Supplemental Food Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) saves $3 in future costs.

If smoking among pregnant women was reduced by one percentage point, 1,300 babies a year could be saved from being born too small, and $21 million a year could be saved in direct medical costs to care for these infants.

Every year a child spends growing up in poverty will cost an estimated $11,800 in lost future productivity over his or her working life.

Every $1 invested in quality early childhood care and education saves $7 by increasing the likelihood that children will be literate, employed, and enrolled in postsecondary education, and less likely to be school dropouts, dependent on welfare, or arrested for criminal activity or delinquency.

Expanding the availability of child care subsidies increased poor mothers' work participation rates from 29 to 44 percent and near-poor mothers' rates from 43 to 57 percent, according to a study by the U.S. General Accounting Office.

The lifetime cost of allowing one child to drop out of high school and into a future of crime can total between $1.3 to $15 million.

The average medical treatment costs for a gun injury is $16,500 a person including the full lifetime medical costs of patient treatment, emergency transportation, and hospital costs through long-term follow-up care.

Choices: Pennies a Day Will Give Hope and Help to Millions of Children Left Behind

For 2 cents a day from every American, we could provide all recommended vaccines for every newborn child to their second birthday.

For 4 cents a day from every American, we could lift more than 300,000 children out of poverty by continuing to expand the earned income tax credit for working families.

For 6 cents a day from every American, we could provide affordable housing for 1 million low-income families, most of whom pay at least half of their income for shelter.

For 9 cents a day from every American, we could provide Head Start to all eligible preschool-age children who need it and one-quarter of infants and toddlers eligible for Early Head Start.

For 14 cents a day from every American, we could fully insure all the 9.2 million children without health coverage.

For 26 cents a day from every American, we could provide child care assistance to all eligible families who need it while increasing the quality of care.

It's Time for New Choices America: Freeze the Tax Cut For the Wealthiest One Percent of Americans Rather than Child Care and Head Start

I have set before you life and death, blessings and curses;
Choose life, so that you and your descendants may live.

Deuteronomy 30:19

September 11th beckons us to think differently about the kind of nation and world we want to build for our children. We need to change direction, recover a sense of urgency about saving our babies, redefine the measure of American success, and make sure that principles of justice rather than power, money, and militarism guide our feet and national priorities. But it will not happen unless we build a powerful movement to truly Leave No Child Behind® that bubbles up from every nook and cranny in America to transform the political and economic priorities in a nation and world that has turned a deaf ear to the cries of children and stacked the decks in favor of the rich and powerful. Need should be met before greed.

We don't begrudge anyone their first, fifth, or tenth million or billion if they are earned on a fair playing field and after children's crucial survival needs are met. But something is out of kilter when just three of our wealthiest Americans possess greater wealth than the GNP of the 28 least developed nations in the world with over 385 million people. The gaping divide between rich and poor nations in our world is mirrored in the gap between rich and poor in our own country. The wealth of these three Americans exceeds that of seven million American families combined and the revenues of 19 state governments with 25 million citizens. *They and others in the top one percent of American taxpayers did not need the huge tax cuts the Bush administration and Congress gave them in June 2001. And they do not need these tax cuts accelerated and made permanent as the Bush administration's 2003 budget proposes while there are still hungry, homeless, poor, uninsured, and poorly educated children.*

To all those in Congress and the White House and state houses who say we do not have the money to keep our children safe when parents work and provide quality child care and early childhood programs to get children ready for school, we say nonsense. We do not have a money problem. We have a values and priorities problem.

It's time to put child welfare ahead of corporate welfare. Although President Bush promised in his campaign and 2002 budget to *guarantee* a $1 billion increase over five years ($200 million a year) for the Promoting Safe and Stable Families Program to prevent child abuse and neglect and move children waiting in foster care to adoptive families, it did not happen. A December 17, 2001, *Washington Post* editorial, "How Poor Kids

Investments for Children During Wartime

Although some use the necessary war against terrorism as an excuse not to invest in the urgent needs of children and families, history shows us that in the past, when faced with threats to our national security, America has recognized the need to make human as well as military investments. The National School Lunch Act was passed after Congress learned that almost a third of our youths were physically ineligible for military service because of factors like malnutrition. Child care, immortalized by Rosie the Riveter, was expanded so mothers could join in war production activities. Today, the military runs one of the best child care programs in the world to keep our military strong. Civilian working families need these same child care supports to keep America working.

Revolutionary War Era

1787: Northwest Ordinance authorized land grants for the establishment of free elementary and secondary public schools throughout the newly settled territories that would become states.

Civil War

1865: The first Reconstruction Act provided for "rations" (a forerunner of today's food stamps) for the newly freed slaves in the occupied Slave Territories. It also created orphanages and public schools and provided a range of social services to the freed children.

World War I

1917: Smith-Hughes Act provided for grants to states for support of vocational education.

World War II

1942: Children's War Order Number 2 set federal standards for child care centers to be created as the war plants were built.

1946: National School Lunch Act (Public Law 79-396) made permanent the 1943 School Lunch Indemnity plan and authorized assistance through grants-in-aid and other means to states to assist in providing adequate foods and facilities for the establishment, maintenance, operation, and expansion of nonprofit school lunch programs.

Korean War

1954: School Milk Program Act (Public Law 83-597) provided funds for purchase of milk for school lunch programs.

Vietnam War

1965: Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (Public Law 89-10) authorized grants for elementary and secondary school programs for children of low-income families; school library resources, textbooks, and other instructional materials for school children; supplementary educational centers and services; activities to strengthen state education agencies; and educational research and research training.

1968: Elementary and Secondary Education Amendments of 1968 (Public Law 90-247) modified existing programs; authorized support of regional centers for education of handicapped children, model centers and services for deaf-blind children, recruitment of personnel, and dissemination of information on education of the handicapped; technical assistance in education to rural areas; support of dropout prevention projects; and support of bilingual education programs.

Pay for Tax Cuts," said: "The administration now has abandoned that commitment. It pretends still to be supporting the increase, but only if the appropriators can find necessary funds." While the White House and House of Representatives decided they could not afford to guarantee $1 billion in help for abused and neglected children, they shortly thereafter found they could afford $7.4 billion to relieve 16 powerful corporations from paying a minimum alternative tax. This year the Bush administration has requested that Congress add a total of $200 million to Promoting Safe and Stable Families for 2003. Hopefully the White House and congressional appropriators will choose to meet the needs of abused and neglected children before those of powerful special interests.

It's time to close the hypocrisy gap between political word and budget deed for children. Rather than freezing the number of children in Head Start, cutting the number of children provided child care, and neglecting the health care needs of millions of children, President Bush and Congress need to freeze the huge annual tax handout for the wealthiest one percent of Americans. We applaud those wealthy Americans who opposed the repeal of the estate tax which benefits estates averaging $8.3 million. *We now urge them and others to speak out for repealing the annual future tax breaks for the wealthiest one percent which the Bush administration's 2003 budget proposes to accelerate and make permanent. When fully phased in, that money could pay for almost all the provisions of the comprehensive Act to Leave No Child Behind including providing children health care, a Head Start, child care, after-school programs, nutrition, and protection against abuse and neglect.* It's a matter of choice and justice.

It's time to place mother and child defense systems on earth ahead of missile defense systems for wars in the stars. The Bush administration proposes a $48 billion increase in overall military spending in 2003 including $7.8 billion more to continue preparation for wars in the stars. Our nation already has spent $100 billion testing technology for a missile defense "Star Wars" system. Even if we could figure out the technology for having a missile hit a missile, is that the biggest priority when UNICEF reports 38,000 children dying every day from preventable sickness and disease and thousands of American children are dying every month from preventable violence and sickness in their homes, communities, and schools on earth? National security is far more than military security. It is family and child security. It is economic security. Just one month's military spending would lift nearly every American child from poverty for a year. Just half of the one year proposed defense increase would pay for child care or health care for every eligible child for a year. Just the money allocated to the "Star Wars" missile defense system in the Bush budget would provide housing for a million homeless and poorly housed children a year. We must insist our leaders defend within what we are seeking to defend from without. President Eisenhower reminded us that: "Every gun that is made, every warship launched, every rocket fired signifies...a theft from those who hunger and are not fed, those who are cold and are not clothed. This world in arms is not spending money alone. It

The Mission of the Movement to Leave No Child Behind®

As we enter the 21st century, America's strength reflects our courage, our compassion, our hard work, our moral values and our commitment to justice. Today, we can extend the American dream of our forefathers and foremothers to every child and family. We have the know-how, the experience, the tools, and the resources. And we have the responsibility as mothers, fathers, grandparents, and concerned and sensible people across the country.

We can build a nation where families have the support they need to make it at work and at home; where every child enters school ready to learn and leaves on the path to a productive future; where babies are likely to be born healthy, and sick children have the health care they need; where no child has to grow up in poverty; where all children are safe in their community and every child has a place to call home—and all Americans can proudly say "We Leave No Child Behind."

Our mission and vision in the months and years ahead is to do what it takes to meet the needs of children and their parents by building on the strengths and sense of fairness of the American people, learning from the best public and private ideas and successes, and moving forward to a renewed commitment to all our children.

Support for the Comprehensive Act to Leave No Child Behind (S.940/H.R. 1990)

As of April 15, 2002, 12 Senators and 83 Representatives have co-sponsored the whole Act which seeks to renovate our entire national house for children. We will renovate it room by room until our whole national house is transformed. Most of the bill's major provisions have been introduced with bipartisan support. Over 1,200 national, regional, state, and local organizations, 79 mayors, and 313 state legislators have endorsed the Act's vision—a vision whose time has come. I hope you will help us realize the vision with both urgency and perseverance.

CDF's Top 2002 Priorities in the Act to Leave No Child Behind

Two crucial programs for children and working families are up for congressional renewal in 2002: the Child Care and Development Block Grant (CCDBG) and Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF), enacted as part of the 1996 welfare bill. The Act to Leave No Child Behind would greatly expand and strengthen parental work supports and early childhood investments including child care. CDF's top priorities are:

- To double the number of children receiving child care assistance from two to four million and improve child care quality. Currently only one in seven children eligible for assistance under the CCDBG receives it.
- To make ending child poverty and family self sufficiency the goal of welfare reform by providing working families the jobs, decent wages, child care, health care, transportation, education and training, housing, food assistance, and other work supports they need to escape and stay out of poverty.

is spending the sweat of its laborers, the genius of its scientists, the hopes of its children...This is not a way of life at all in any true sense. Under the cloud of threatening war, it is humanity hanging from a cross of iron."

It's time to end expensive child poverty and invest in cost effective solutions to ensure America's future. Every year that over 11 million children live in poverty will cost our society an estimated $137 billion in future economic output as poor children grow up to be less productive and effective workers. Lifting every poor family with children above the official poverty line would cost $34 billion a year—half the tax cut for the top one percent of taxpayers when fully phased in. Investments in early education and Head Start cost far less than ignorance and prison. Every dollar invested in high quality early childhood programs saves $7 in later costs. Every dollar invested in immunizations saves $16 in later medical costs. Every dollar invested in the supplemental food program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC) saves $3 in later costs. How shortsighted is it that our states spend on average three times more per prisoner than per public school pupil? (See Public School Education table on page 65.)

Steps You Can Take to Build a Nation Where No Child Is Left Behind

I. Support the mission of and join the Movement to Leave No Child Behind.® The comprehensive Act to Leave No Child Behind (S. 940/H.R. 1990), introduced by Senator Christopher Dodd (D-CT) and Representative George Miller (D-CA), lays out a policy vision of what our nation must do to truly Leave No Child Behind. It recognizes that children do not come in pieces but in families who live in communities. It builds on the best ideas and practices from across the country. We believe a child's chance to survive, thrive, and succeed in life should not depend on the lottery of birth, budget surpluses or deficits, or war or peace. In the midst of World War II, Winston Churchill said "there is no finer investment for any community than putting milk into babies." During other wars, America created and expanded a range of important child investments. The war on terrorism is no excuse not to prevent and stop the domestic terrors of child poverty, hunger, homelessness, and abuse and neglect right now.

The comprehensive Act to Leave No Child Behind gives the President, Congress, state and local officials and all Americans the opportunity to:

- Get every child ready for school through full funding of quality child care and Head Start, and new investments in preschool—CDF's top priorities in 2002 and 2003.
- Lift every child from poverty—half by 2004; all by 2010.
- Ensure every child and their parents health insurance.

- End child hunger through the expansion of food programs.
- Make sure every child can read by fourth grade and can graduate from school able to succeed at work and in life.
- Provide every child safe, quality after-school and summer programs so children can learn, serve, work, and stay out of trouble.
- Ensure every child a place called home and decent affordable housing.
- Protect all children from neglect, abuse, and other violence and ensure them the care they need.
- Ensure families leaving welfare the supports needed to be successful in the workplace, including health care, child care, education, and training.

The estimated $75 billion annual investment for providing the Act's basic protections for our children add up to less than seven-tenths of one percent of the nation's gross domestic product (GDP) for 2003. Children equal 100 percent of America's future.

II. Participate in Wednesdays In Washington and At Home™ and help build a persistent, powerful witness for children. On Wednesdays In Washington and At Home we are calling on women (especially mothers), grandparents, people of faith, youths, and concerned citizens from all walks of life to bear witness for children in this new era until the words Leave No Child Behind and the Act to Leave No Child Behind become a reality for every child. We must build a broad-based movement across race, class, age, faith, discipline, and gender to Leave No Child Behind® that has the transforming power of the civil rights, women, anti-war, and environmental movements of the 1960s and 1970s. We must mobilize a critical mass of Americans to demand concrete major actions from policymakers each year until our whole national house is a safe and welcoming place for all children. We must bring disparate child advocates and service providers together with powerful mainstream networks to support and strengthen children and families and to rebuild community and a sense of common purpose as a nation. A New Testament parable describes an unjust, powerful judge who ignored a powerless widow's pleas for justice. But she did not give up. "Because this widow keeps bothering me, I will grant her justice so that she may not continue coming forever and wear me out," the judge finally said. So must we wear our leaders out with our voices and votes and mobilizations and local, state, and national organizing until they provide just treatment for all our children.

III. Remember that *justice* for children is our goal. Charity is an important gift but it can end at any time. Justice is a right in a democratic society. Children have a human right to food and health care and education and safety regardless of the political and economic weather. Important religious, nonprofit, and volunteer services often depend heavily on government support and can never replace government's role. Economist Rebecca Blank

found that if we asked religious congregations to pay the costs of just three government programs for the poor—welfare for families, disability payments, and food stamps—every single congregation in America would have to give an extra $300,000 a year.

IV. Vote for our children who cannot vote for themselves. Vote for leaders who vote for new and more just budget choices. *And hold our leaders accountable for what they actually do for children—not just for what they say.* Look behind the spin and promises and photo-ops and rhetoric at the actual policies, budgets, regulations, and their implementation.

V. Practice the highest form of patriotism by asking hard questions and helping our leaders honor America's highest ideals. Let us love God and our country so much that we raise our voices and stand together to help America truly honor the ideals of freedom and justice for which America stands for our children. Like Albert Camus, "I should like to be able to love my country and still love justice. I don't want just any greatness for it, particularly a greatness born of blood and falsehood. I want to keep it alive by keeping justice alive." Let us insist that our leaders redefine national and homeland security not just as military security but as healthy, educated, and safe children and strong families and communities. If you and I don't unmask and stand up against the gauntlet of political meanness and indifference to child suffering, who will? If you and I do not stand up for the children in the wretched shelters across our land whose biggest terror is where the next meal or room will come from, who will? If you and I don't speak up for the parents whose child is gasping for breath or coughing up blood and crying "Mommy, help me," who will? If you and I don't mobilize and organize for the teenager hovering in the hospital emergency room for warmth, who will? And if you and I do not vote for children who cannot vote for themselves, who will hold our leaders accountable for making just choices which help rather than leave children behind?

VI. Wake up, be strong and courageous, persevere, and be ready for action as God lifts the curtain on the next act of history. Have your lamps lit and full of oil, for we know not the time. Do not let anything or anybody discourage us from our mission to Leave No Child Behind®. A depressed playwright Ionesco said, "Nothing discourages me, not even discouragement." Not war, not powerful corporate interests, not recession and budget deficits, and not political leaders who say one thing and do another. As child advocates, let's take risks, disarm our personal and organizational egos, try new strategies, work with new networks, and leave our comfort zones of business as usual.

VII. Pray without ceasing and trust God to hear our persistent pleas and to bless our work to feed, house, protect, and educate all God's children. Pray that we and our leaders will be God's instruments for blessing the world through America, for only God can convert the consciousness and priorities of an errant nation and world mired in materialism, individualism, militarism, racism, and greed. Only God can build a nation and world where no child is left behind. But I believe God can and will. So let us move forward together with trust and faith to be God's hands and feet and voices to truly Leave No Child Behind®.

God, Please Forgive and Transform our Rich Nation

God, please forgive and transform our rich nation where small children suffer from hunger quite legally.

God, please forgive and transform our powerful nation where toddlers and schoolchildren die from guns sold quite legally.

God, please forgive and transform our rich nation that lets children be the poorest group of citizens quite legally.

God, please forgive and transform our rich nation that lets the rich continue to get more at the expense of the poor quite legally.

God, please forgive and transform our rich nation that thinks security rests in missiles rather than in mothers, and in bombs rather than in babies.

God, please help our rich nation to give
You sufficient thanks by giving to all Your children their daily bread.

God, please help us never to confuse what is quite legal
with what is just and right in Your sight.

Help us to do what is just and right in Your sight for all the children of America and the world so that peace with justice will prevail and no child is left behind.

In faith and hope,

Marian Wright Edelman

Proposed Bush Administration Cuts, Freezes, and Other Funding Choices in Key Discretionary Children's Programs, FY 2002

	FY 2001 Appropriation (in millions)	Bush Administration FY 2002 Budget (in millions)	Percent Change	Amount Change (in millions)
Proposed Bush administration budget cuts in children's programs (14 programs)				
Child welfare services:				
Child Abuse Discretionary Activities	$ 33.204	$ 17.978	-45.9%	$ -15.226
Social Service & Income Maintenance Research	38.096	6.426	-83.1	-31.670
Community services:				
Rural Community Facilities	5.321	0.000	-100.0	-5.321
Community Food & Nutrition	6.314	0.000	-100.0	-6.314
Early childhood:				
Early Learning Fund	19.998	0.000	-100.0	-19.998
Education:				
Education Technology Grants	872.096	817.096	-6.3	-55.000
Class Size Reduction	1,623.000	0.000	-100.0	-1,623.000
School Renovation	1,200.000	0.000	-100.0	-1,200.000
Health:				
Maternal & Child Health Block Grant/TBI	714.151	709.087	-0.7	-5.064
Emergency Medical Services for Children	18.985	15.574	-18.0	-3.411
Newborn & Infant Hearing Screening	7.999	6.581	-17.7	-1.418
Hospital Insurance for the Uninsured	321.000	292.000	-9.0	-29.000
Job training:				
Youth Training (Workforce Investment Act)	1,127.965	1,000.965	-11.3	-127.000
Mental health:				
Programs of Regional & National Significance	203.390	187.599	-7.8	-15.791
Total cuts in child spending	**$6,191.519**	**$3,053.305**		**-$3,138.213**
Proposed Bush administration budget freezes in children's programs (21 programs)				
Child welfare services:				
Child Welfare Services	291.986	291.986	0.0	0.000
Child Welfare Training	6.998	6.998	0.0	0.000
Child Abuse State Grants	21.026	21.026	0.0	0.000
Community Based Family Resource Centers	32.834	32.834	0.0	0.000
Community services:				
Community Services Block Grant	599.991	599.991	0.0	0.000
Community Economic Development	30.034	30.034	0.0	0.000
Low Income Home Energy Assistance (LIHEAP)	1,400.000	1,400.000	0.0	0.000
Education:				
Even Start	250.000	250.000	0.0	0.000
Safe & Drug Free Schools	644.250	644.250	0.0	0.000
Education/Homeless Children	35.000	35.000	0.0	0.000
21st Century Community Learning Centers	845.614	845.614	0.0	0.000
Language Acquisition Grants	460.000	460.000	0.0	0.000
Health:				
Healthy Start	89.996	89.996	0.0	0.000
Job training:				
Youth Opportunity Grants	250.000	250.000	0.0	0.000
Job Corps	1,399.148	1,399.148	0.0	0.000
YouthBuild	60.000	60.000	0.0	0.000
Mental health:				
Mental Health Performance Partnership	420.000	420.000	0.0	0.000
Nutrition:				
School Meals Initiative	10.000	10.000	0.0	0.000
Youth development:				
Runaway Youth Prevention	14.999	14.999	0.0	0.000
Juvenile Accountability Incentive Block Grants	249.450	249.450	0.0	0.000
Juvenile Justice & Delinquency Prevention	279.940	279.940	0.0	0.000
Total freezes in child spending	**$7,391.266**	**$7,391.266**		**$0.000**

Proposed Bush Administration Cuts, Freezes, and Other Funding Choices in Key Discretionary Children's Programs, FY 2002 (Continued)

	FY 2001 Appropriation (in millions)	Bush Administration FY 2002 Budget (in millions)	Percent Change	Amount Change (in millions)
Proposed Bush administration budget increases below inflation in children's programs (8 programs)				
Child welfare services:				
Abandoned Infants Assistance	$ 12.182	$ 12.205	0.2%	$ 0.023
Adoption Opportunities	27.379	27.405	0.1	0.026
Adoption Incentive Grants	42.994	43.000	0.0	0.006
Health:				
Ryan White AIDS Program	1,807.609	1,807.764	0.0	0.155
Title X - Family Planning	253.897	254.170	0.1	0.273
Mental health:				
Children's Mental Health Services	91.645	91.694	0.1	0.049
Substance abuse:				
Prevention Programs of Regional & National Significance	174.919	175.013	0.1	0.094
Youth development:				
Consolidated Runaway & Homeless Youth Programs	69.123	69.133	0.0	0.010
Total increases in funding below inflation	**$2,479.748**	**$2,480.384**		**$0.636**
Proposed Bush administration budget increases at or above inflation in children's programs (10 programs)				
Early childhood:				
Head Start	5,199.812	6,324.812	2.0	125.000
Child Care & Development Block Grant Funding (CCDBG)	1,999.868	2,199.987	10.0	200.119
Education:				
Title I	8,762.721	9,060.721	3.4	298.000
IDEA/Special Education	7,439.948	8,425.595	13.2	985.647
Charter Schools	190.000	200.000	5.3	10.000
Health:				
Childhood Immunizations	552.572	574.645	4.0	22.073
Birth Defects/Developmental Disabilities	70.726	76.280	7.9	5.554
Nutrition:				
WIC	4,043.086	4,137.086	2.3	94.000
Substance abuse:				
Treatment Programs of Regional & National Significance	255.985	296.122	15.7	40.137
Substance Abuse Performance Partnership	1,665.000	1,725.000	3.6	60.000
Total increases in funding above inflation	**$31,179.718**	**$33,020.248**		**$1,840.530**
Proposed Bush administration budget new initiatives (8 programs)				
Child welfare services:				
Promoting Safe and Stable Families	-	200.000	n/a	200.000
Mentoring Children of Prisoners	-	67.000	n/a	67.000
Independent Living/Vouchers	-	60.000	n/a	60.000
Compassion Capital Fund	-	89.000	n/a	89.000
Promoting Responsible Fatherhood Initiative	-	64.000	n/a	64.000
Education:				
Teacher Quality Improvement Grants	-	2,600.000	n/a	2,600.000
Reading First	-	900.000	n/a	900.000
Early Reading First	-	75.000	n/a	75.000
Total new initiatives	-	**$4,055.000**		**$4,055.000**
Net increase in proposed funding				**$2,757.953**

Proposed Bush Administration Cuts, Freezes, and Other Funding Choices in Key Discretionary Children's Programs, FY 2003

	FY 2002 Appropriation (in millions)	Bush Administration FY 2003 Budget (in millions)	Percent Change	Amount Change (in millions)
Proposed Bush administration budget cuts in children's programs (13 programs)				
Child welfare services:				
Social Service & Income Maintenance Research	$ 31.250	$ 21.000	-32.8%	$ -10.250
Community services:				
Community Services Block Grant	650.000	570.000	-12.3	-80.000
Low Income Home Energy Assistance (LIHEAP)	1,700.000	1,400.000	-17.6	-300.000
Early childhood:				
Early Learning Fund	25.000	0.000	-100.0	-25.000
Education:				
Even Start	250.000	200.000	-20.0	-50.000
Health:				
Newborn & Infant Hearing Screening	10.000	0.000	-100.0	-10.000
Hospital Insurance for the Uninsured	292.000	0.000	-100.0	-292.000
Job training:				
Youth Training (Workforce Investment Act)	1,127.965	1,000.965	-11.3	-127.000
Youth Opportunity Grants	225.100	44.500	-80.2	-180.600
Mental health:				
Programs of Regional & National Significance	230.067	223.000	-3.1	-7.067
Substance abuse:				
Prevention Programs of Regional & National Significance	198.140	153.000	-22.8	-45.140
Youth development:				
Juvenile Accountability Incentive Block Grants	249.450	215.000	-13.8	-34.450
Juvenile Justice & Delinquency Prevention	305.860	238.344	-22.1	-67.516
Total cuts in child spending	**$5,294.832**	**$4,065.809**		**-$1,229.023**
Proposed Bush administration budget freezes in children's programs (29 programs)				
Child welfare services:				
Child Welfare Services	291.986	291.986	0.0	0.000
Child Welfare Training	7.498	7.498	0.0	0.000
Child Abuse State Grants	22.013	22.013	0.0	0.000
Child Abuse Discretionary Activities	26.178	26.178	0.0	0.000
Community Based Resource Centers	33.417	33.417	0.0	0.000
Abandoned Infants Assistance	12.205	12.205	0.0	0.000
Adoption Opportunities	27.405	27.405	0.0	0.000
Adoption Incentive Grants	43.000	43.000	0.0	0.000
Community services:				
Community Economic Development	32.517	32.517	0.0	0.000
Rural Community Facilities	7.000	7.000	0.0	0.000
Community Food & Nutrition	7.314	7.314	0.0	0.000
Early childhood:				
Child Care & Development Block Grant Funding (CCDBG)	2,099.994	2,099.994	0.0	0.000
Education:				
Education Technology Grants	700.500	700.500	0.0	0.000
Safe & Drug Free Schools	644.250	644.250	0.0	0.000
Education/Homeless Children	50.000	50.000	0.0	0.000
Teacher Quality Improvement Grants	2,850.000	2,850.000	0.0	0.000
Early Reading First	75.000	75.000	0.0	0.000
21st Century Community Learning Centers	1,000.000	1,000.000	0.0	0.000
Language Acquisition Grants	665.000	665.000	0.0	0.000

Proposed Bush Administration Cuts, Freezes, and Other Funding Choices in Key Discretionary Children's Programs, FY 2003 (Continued)

	FY 2002 Appropriation (in millions)	Bush Administration FY 2003 Budget (in millions)	Percent Change	Amount Change (in millions)
Proposed Bush administration budget freezes in children's programs (continued)				
Health:				
Maternal & Child Health Block Grant/TBI	$ 739.000	$ 739.000	0.0%	$ 0.000
Ryan White AIDS Program	1,910.806	1,910.806	0.0	0.000
Emergency Medical Services for Children	18.993	18.993	0.0	0.000
Healthy Start	99.000	99.000	0.0	0.000
Title X - Family Planning	265.085	265.085	0.0	0.000
Job training:				
YouthBuild	65.000	65.000	0.0	0.000
Mental health:				
Children's Mental Health Services	96.694	96.694	0.0	0.000
Mental Health Performance Partnership	433.000	433.000	0.0	0.000
Youth Development:				
Runaway Youth Prevention	14.999	14.999	0.0	0.000
Consolidated Runaway & Homeless Youth Programs	88.133	88.133	0.0	0.000
Total freezes in child spending	**$12,325.987**	**$12,325.987**		**$0.000**
Proposed Bush administration budget increases below inflation in children's programs (3 programs)				
Health:				
Childhood Immunizations	627.895	631.000	0.5	3.105
Birth Defects/Developmental Disabilities	90.078	91.000	1.0	0.922
Nutrition:				
School Meals Initiative	9.991	10.000	0.1	0.009
Total increases in funding below inflation	**$727.964**	**$732.000**		**$4.036**
Proposed Bush administration budget increases at or above inflation in children's programs (11 programs)				
Child welfare services:				
Promoting Safe and Stable Families	70.000	200.000	185.7	130.000
Compassion Capital Fund	30.000	100.000	233.3	70.000
Early childhood:				
Head Start	6,537.906	6,667.000	2.0	129.094
Education:				
Title I	10,350.000	11,352.900	9.7	1,002.900
IDEA/Special Education	8,672.804	9,687.804	11.7	1,015.000
Reading First	900.000	1,000.000	2.6	100.000
Charter Schools	200.000	300.000	50.0	100.000
Job training:				
Job Corps	1,459.200	1,500.000	2.8	40.800
Nutrition:				
WIC	4,348.000	4,900.000	12.7	552.000
Treatment Programs of Regional & National Significance	291.572	358.000	22.8	66.428
Substance Abuse Performance Partnership	1,725.000	1,785.000	3.5	60.000
Total increase in funding above inflation	**$34,584.482**	**$37,850.704**		**$3,266.222**
Proposed Bush administration budget new initiatives (3 programs)				
Child welfare services:				
Mentoring Children of Prisoners	-	25.000	n/a	25.000
Independent Living/Vouchers	-	60.000	n/a	60.000
Promoting Responsible Fatherhood Initiative	-	20.000	n/a	20.000
Total new initiatives		**$105.000**		**$105.000**
Net increase in proposed funding				**$2,146.235**

Part I
America's Fifth Child

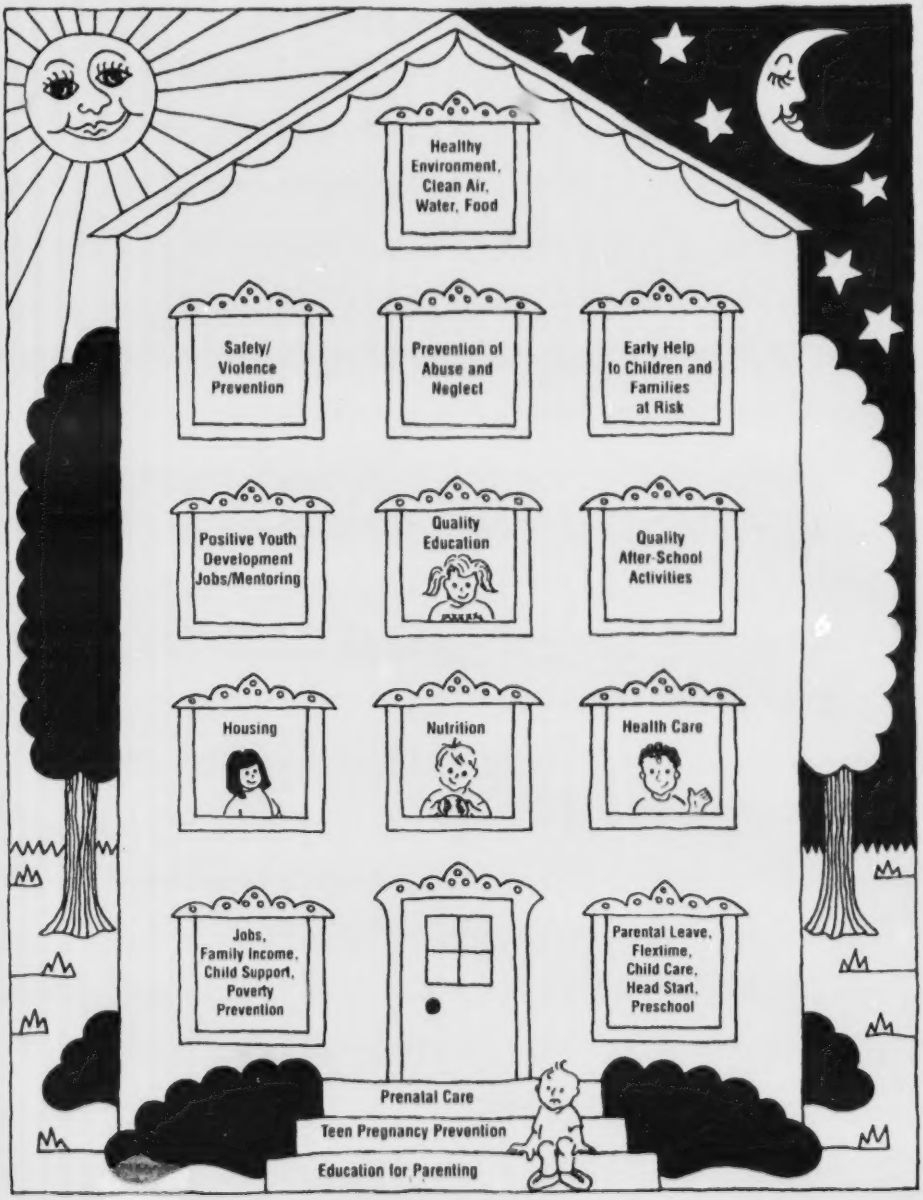
IT'S HARD TO TIGHTEN YOUR BELT WHEN YOU'RE WEARING DIAPERS.

Every dollar invested in a poor child now will save many more dollars later. It's an investment that not only will make us a kinder, gentler nation, but also a richer one.

The recession that began in 2001 has hit children. It has undone much of the employment gains for parents in 1995-2000 that helped to reduce child poverty during those prosperous years. The number of children with an unemployed parent jumped by 1.2 million (41 percent) between the end of 2000 and 2001. The recession wiped out half of the earlier gains in parental employment and put many children at risk of increased hardship.

America's Fifth Child

One in every five children under three is poor in the richest nation on earth. The Movement and comprehensive Act to Leave No Child Behind (S.940/H.R.1990) seek to renovate our wealthy national house to make room for this child left behind in the most important formative years. We will renovate our house room by room until the whole house is safe and healthy and welcoming for every child and no child is left behind.



America's Fifth Child

Imagine a very wealthy family with five young children under the age of three. Four have enough to eat and comfortable warm rooms in which to sleep. One does not. She is often hungry and lives in a cold room. Sometimes she has to sleep on the streets, in a shelter, and even be taken away from her family and be placed in foster care with strangers.

Imagine this family giving four of their very young children nourishing meals everyday, but letting the fifth child go hungry.

Imagine this very wealthy family making sure four of their young children get all their shots and regular check-ups before they get sick, but ignoring the fifth child who is plagued by chronic infections and respiratory diseases like asthma.

Imagine this rich family making sure four of their children get stimulating pre-school experiences and sending the fifth child to unsafe or poor quality child care with underpaid or untrained caregivers responsible for too many children, or all alone.

Imagine the family reading every night to four of their children, and leaving the fifth child unread to, untalked and unsung to, or propped before a television screen which feeds her violence, ads for material things, and intellectual pablum.

As the children grow up, imagine this family sending four of them to good schools in safe neighborhoods with enough books and computers and laboratories and science equipment and well-prepared teachers, but sending the fifth child to crumbling school buildings with peeling ceilings and leaks and asbestos in the paint and old, old books and not enough of them, with teachers untrained in the subjects they teach and funding unequal to those in richer school districts.

Imagine four of the family's children growing up excited about learning, looking forward to finishing high school, going on to college and getting a job, and the fifth child who comes to school not ready to learn falling farther behind grade level when unable to read and keep up with classmates, wanting to drop out of school, and at risk of getting pregnant or into trouble.

Imagine four of the children becoming engaged in sports and music and arts enrichment after school, summer camps, and service opportunities and the fifth child as she gets older meeting her friends on the street or going home alone because mom and dad are working or have escaped parenting responsibilities they feel unable to meet in drugs and alcohol, and hanging out alone or with peers all summer.

Poverty Hurts Children

Outcomes	Low-income children's higher risk
Health	
Death in infancy	1.6 times more likely
Premature birth (under 37 weeks)	1.8 times more likely
Low birthweight	1.9 times more likely
Inadequate prenatal care	2.8 times more likely
No regular source of health care	2.7 times more likely
Family had too little food sometime in the last 4 months	8 times more likely
Education	
Math scores at ages 7 to 8	5 test points lower
Reading scores at ages 7 to 8	4 tests points lower
Repeated a grade	2.0 times more likely
Expelled from school	3.4 times more likely
Being a dropout at ages 16 to 24	3.5 times more likely
Finishing a four-year college	½ as likely

This is our American family today where one in five of our youngest children under three lives in poverty. It is not a stable or healthy family or a sufficiently compassionate one.

What do we know about America's fifth child? Contrary to popular stereotypes, America's fifth poor young child is much more likely to live in a working family than to be on welfare, is more likely to be White than Black or Latino, and is more likely to live in a rural or suburban area than in an inner city. Three in five poor children are White although Black and Latino children suffer far more than their share of poverty. One in three Black children and one in four Latino children is poor.

Poverty robs children's lives of education and health and hope and dreams. It even takes their lives.

America's fifth child is twice as likely to be born without adequate prenatal care, at low birthweight, and to die before reaching her first birthday.

America's fifth child is more than twice as likely to be abused or neglected and three times as likely to live in substandard housing as non-poor children.

America's fifth child will not grow or develop as fast as other children physically, mentally, or educationally; is twice as likely to repeat a grade or drop out of school before graduation and is more likely to require special education, end up on welfare, or in trouble than non-poor children.

America's fifth child is more likely to begin school already thousands of words behind her middle class peers because she is not read to, does not have books in her house, is not talked to, and is not provided a quality child care, preschool, or Head Start or Early Head Start experience.

America's fifth child suffers more than her share of asthma attacks and respiratory ailments and lead poisoning without getting treated, often cannot sleep at night from too many people and too much noise in overcrowded apartments or shelters, and is frequently tired in preschool.

America's fifth child is worn down fighting a chronic multi-front war against sickness, family breakdown, family and neighborhood violence, drugs, fear and shame, struggling to get attention at home and at school. She is tired from trying to keep spirits up and to hang onto a tenuous sense of being somebody worthwhile going somewhere better.

America's fifth child is less likely to have a father at home, the consistent support and affection of two parents, the stability of a married family, a steady family income, significant extended family resources, and as she gets older is more likely to be arrested, be convicted if arrested, be tried as an adult, and be sentenced to prison.

America's fifth child desperately wants but often finds it hard to grow up and trust adults, the world, and is almost always afraid—afraid of being hungry; of having no place to sleep; of having a mother, father, sister, brother, aunt, uncle, grandmother disappear or be killed; of being bitten in bed by a rat or crawled on by roaches; of being accosted by a gang member or drug peddler in the streets; of being too hot in the summer and too cold in the winter; of being disrespected and ignored, lonely, and afraid of not existing in a world that is passing her by.

America's fifth child is usually a fifth rail in schools, in religious congregations, in many community organizations, and in politics—ignored by too many school officials and teachers, faith leaders, providers, the media, and presidents, senators, representatives, governors, and powerful budget and appropriation committee chairs catering to rich and powerful influences who vote, lobby, make campaign contributions, and command the media and an unfair share of government attention and resources.

America's fifth child is almost twice as likely to be poor as adults who can vote and organize. If the safety net for poor American children was as effective as it is for our low-income elderly, three out of four poor children today would not be poor.

America's fifth child would fare better as a citizen of another nation. If America's poverty prevention safety net for children was as effective as it is in France, two out of three poor children would escape poverty. If she lived in 23 other industrialized nations, she would be guaranteed health insurance, an income safety net, and the chance for a parent to stay at home with pay after childbirth.

America's fifth child, our youngest and most vulnerable, is poor, hungry, homeless, unstimulated, abused and neglected during the most important years of early brain, emotional, and social development. She is our child. She, too, is our future.

Stories of America's Invisible Children

Too many children in America still face the ravages of poverty, hunger, homelessness, violence, abuse and neglect, and health and mental health problems in the richest, most powerful nation on earth. Let yourself feel a few of their struggles and then do something about it.

Anthony and Maurice: Death from poverty and lack of decent child care

Seventeen years ago, 3-year-old Anthony and 4-year-old Maurice died in Dade County, Florida. Their mother worked to support her family but her income was too low to pay for child care. Since she qualified for government help she was put on Florida's long waiting list for child care assistance, a list with 22,000 names. While waiting she relied on friends and relatives to care for the children. Some days those arrangements fell through

and the boys were left alone when she went to work. On one such day, Maurice and Anthony climbed into the clothes dryer to look at a magazine in a seemingly cozy place, closed the door, and tumbled and burned to death. The *Miami Herald* wrote: "There are hundreds, maybe thousands more tragedies waiting to happen in Dade County alone, in every home where young children are left to fend for themselves...They're not latchkey kids, they're lockup kids, locked inside for the day by parents who can't afford day care, can't afford not to work and can't get government assistance...Anthony and Maurice might be alive today if affordable care had been available." Today there are over 46,000 children on Florida's waiting list; over 36,000 in Texas; over 10,000 in Mississippi; and 18,000 in Massachusetts.

Anthony and Maurice died from poverty and the refusal of our nation to protect and invest in a safe, affordable, quality child care system for working parents. Should parents have to choose between making a living and the lives and safety of their children?

Susan and her son John: Struggle of a mother to escape homelessness

John was born in a homeless shelter. His mother Susan was hardly a stereotypical candidate for homelessness. She was 25 years old, a receptionist at a trading corporation, and attending trade school. When the company suffered heavy losses, she was fired. Pregnant with John, she quickly slid down the slippery slope into homelessness. All the helping hands that should have been there let her down. The unemployment office refused to give her benefits unless she dropped her trade school classes to concentrate just on finding work. Susan was trying hard to find work and believed a college degree would make her more employable. The welfare office caseworkers told her she was ineligible because she was technically eligible for unemployment benefits, never mind that she wasn't collecting a penny of it. She had to go to soup kitchens for meals. Susan found a few temporary jobs that postponed her eviction but for only four months. Homelessness is tough for anyone, but especially for a pregnant woman. Every 28 days she had to move from one shelter to another, dragging her belongings with her. She continued to look for work but was caught in the catch-22 predicament of the homeless. She needed a job to secure a permanent address and phone number but without a permanent address and phone number, she couldn't land a job. When John was born, the job search was put on hold, and she faced new child care demands which added obstacles to her path out of homelessness.

Do we have to make it so hard when parents try to better themselves through education and training?

Baby Antonio and Maria: Death from lack of food, adequate health care, and transportation

Antonio was born to Maria, a young mother who was sent home with him the day he was born. Only she didn't have a home. She was a single parent with no extended family

support. She loved her baby and within the limits of public assistance was able to find a small room to rent. When Antonio was about 3 months old, Maria called a health clinic to report her baby was sick. The nurse told Maria to bring him in. Maria said she didn't have transportation. The nurse asked for the baby's symptoms and, after hearing Antonio had suffered diarrhea for two days, concluded he had a flu virus and advised Maria to keep the baby hydrated. "Feed the baby liquids every hour; Pedialyte or apple juice is good." Maria went to her refrigerator. She didn't have any Pedialyte or apple juice or even ice. But in her cupboard she did have tomato sauce, so she filled the baby's bottle with it and stayed up all night feeding him every hour on the hour. The sodium content of the tomato sauce accelerated the baby's dehydration and by morning his tiny body was lifeless.

Did this baby need to die from poverty in rich America because his mother lacked transportation, adequate health care, and food?

Marie and her three children: Struggling to take care of her own and other people's children

It is suppertime and Marie, the mother of two young children and one handicapped adult daughter who contracted spinal meningitis as a toddler, surveys the nearly bare shelves in her kitchen—some beans, vegetables, and canned potato soup. The week's meat, which she buys when it is on sale, has been rationed and stretched as far as possible, and is gone by now. Marie always makes sure the children eat dinner first, although it might be just canned soup, and sometimes she goes hungry for the night. "As long as they get something," she says. Marie has been working for over a decade and a half. She is not on welfare. When she tried to apply for food stamps last year, she was told that she earned one dollar above the income requirement to be eligible. She is a child care provider. She works hard every day to make sure the toddlers in her care are safe and well fed, comforted when they cry, and given as much love and stimulation as possible. For her crucial work she brings home so little money she can barely feed and house her own children. The average child care worker makes $16,000 and usually without health benefits. That is three times less than the $53,000 the millionaires and billionaires in the top one percent of American taxpayers will get in new tax breaks when the Bush administration's tax cut plan is fully phased in unless it is repealed.

Is a child care worker helping to mold our children in the important early years of development 450 times less valuable to America's future than the average CEO in the best paid 800 who received $7.5 million in compensation in 2001?

Vicky and Sheila: Working mothers struggling to pay for child care

Vicky, a 30-year-old single mother, and her two-year-old daughter live in Fort Walton Beach, Florida. Sheila is a 26-year-old mother who lives in Kennebunk, Maine with her two-year-old son who is presently in day care. These mothers described their struggles to Senate committees in March 2002.

Vicky: "I am a hard worker and have always prided myself on my ability to be self-sufficient. I maintain a small two-bedroom apartment for my daughter and myself and I drive a ten-year-old car because I cannot afford a newer one. I work very hard to provide a safe and stable environment for myself and my child while struggling to work and go to college...Now I am confronted with a new obstacle for which there seems to be no way around. You see, as a single mother, I make only enough to pay my bills and live a very modest lifestyle. My annual income is $13,500 a year. That includes my Food Stamp benefit. I am a hard worker and go to work every day. Until recently, I received Transitional Child Care assistance through Okaloosa-Walton Child Care Services, which helped pay my child care fees. However, my Transitional Child Care benefit was terminated on March 1st of this year. My income still places me well within Florida's eligibility level for child care assistance and I still qualify for help paying for my child care expenses. However, due to a lack of funds in Florida this year, my daughter and I have been placed on a waiting list for child care help, along with 358 other families in Okaloosa and Walton counties, and over 46,000 other families in the state. Now I am left with the dilemma of no help with my child care costs. I cannot afford to pay full child care fees so that I can work as my weekly child care expenses total over 42 percent of my weekly take-home pay. I could, of course, quit working and return to welfare, but I choose to work hard so that I can teach my child the importance of self-sufficiency..."

Sheila: "I was married when my son was born so I finished working one week before he was due to be a homemaker. My husband was verbally abusive and eventually became violent. In September of 2001, I decided to leave behind everything I had except the clothes I could pack into my car. My son and I drove from our home in South Carolina to stay with my grandmother in Maine until I could get on my feet. I found employment in October and needed child care so I enrolled my son in a good facility where he could attend nursery school. Although I believe my day care deserves every penny of it, my child care expenses are 48 percent of my weekly net income. I have been on a waiting list for child care assistance since November. This expense is mandatory for me to work. I have no other option, but because of this, there isn't enough left for any housing expense. I am perfectly capable of working and I could provide everything my son and I needed if it wasn't for the cost of child care. It is a heavy expense for any parent. When your child is sick and unable to attend, you are still required to pay for a full week. When the care center is closed due to a holiday, you are still required to pay for a full week. Parents either have to stay home with their children while losing pay or make other arrangements for those days such as paying a babysitter. It's a difficult situation for any parent. I see no other way to fully provide for my son if this program [the federal Child Care and Development Block Grant (CCDBG)] can't help us. The only other government assistance I qualify for is the WIC Program.... I make $18,000 a year. This is hardly enough to raise a child my son's age on my income alone."

Why isn't there help for parents like these who are trying so hard to give their children what they need and to be self-sufficient?

A Colorado mother and her asthmatic daughter

A Colorado mother lost Medicaid when she bought a car to transport her young asthmatic daughter during the cold winter months. Before she got the car, she and her daughter had to leave home at 6:30 a.m., take light rail and then a bus to get to child care and work. She saw her daughter getting sicker with hospital visits every month. Concerned that exposing her child to the cold every day was increasing her health problems, she bought the car. She did not know, of course, that in her state acquiring a car (or any asset) worth more than $1,500 would mean she would lose her child's health insurance.

Should any parent have to make this kind of choice? Why are there 9.2 million uninsured children in America?

The Chens: Keeping families together

Poor Chinese parents, many citizens or permanent residents, are sometimes forced to send their babies back to China until they reach school age and no longer need all day child care. Sarah and Michael Chen both work in a restaurant—he as a cook and she as a cashier. They could not, even with their joint incomes, afford private child care. New York's waiting list for subsidized child care is long and they cannot live on Mr. Chen's salary alone. Most child care closes by 5 p.m. and few if any stay open as late at 10 p.m. when both Chens get off from work.

Should parents and children have to be separated for years because they can't get child care help?

Ms. Arlene Cruz and her four grandchildren: Jamall, Paris, Ronald, and Tara

"They forgot we were there," Paris, 9 years old, said while waiting for a meal in New York City's shelter system with his homeless grandmother and three siblings.

In March 2001, the *New York Times* chronicled the story of Ms. Arlene Cruz, a 55-year old grandmother trying to care for her four grandchildren—Jamall, Paris, Ronald, and Tara—whom she had rescued from foster care. The *Times* wrote, "she struggled to deliver them clean, fed, and in uniforms to their Manhattan public schools, starting each day from a different homeless shelter." Ms. Cruz, who had worked at a low-wage supermarket job, had been unable to get a voucher for child care because she was not on welfare. She tried to make ends meet by adding a shift as a hospital aide. When her health failed, the family began to fall deeper and deeper into a bottomless pit without a home.

Should this grandmother, like 2.4 million grandparents today in our nation struggling to raise grandchildren, not have the support she needs to keep her family together—especially when foster care and shelters cost so much more than decent child care and housing assistance?

Voices of homeless families in New York City

Here are some of the voices and suffering of homeless families and children shared with us by the Association to Benefit Children.

"They got us out of [the shelter] last night at two in the morning. Then they wanted to see the kids here during the day because the whole family has to be together to re-apply. How could we take them to school?"

"They miss frequently on the days I have to be there to re-apply. They can even log you out when you're on a pass to take your kids to school."

"I tried to change her school when we got placed. The placement is only for 10 days and sometimes only seven or eight days. I can't keep on changing and changing her school each time we go to a different place."

"Since we first applied [for shelter], my kids have changed schools eight or nine times."

"He's an excellent student. He's been in school only one-third of this school year...and still been able to pass because he's such a good student. He's even sought after by Hunter [an elite high school] for his math and chess."

"It's not fair to make us wait so late to take us [into the shelter] and get us up so early. My kids don't want to get up after five or six hours of sleep. If they go to school, they'd be sleeping. My eight year-old asks me, 'When are we going to go home, Mommy?'"

"I'm exhausted from waiting for our name to be called. We don't have enough clothing and I can't get what we have washed so they can go to school."

"My four-year old goes to sleep at preschool and doesn't wake up until three o'clock when it's time to put his coat on."

"If we wake up after 6 a.m., he can't go to school. The teacher says he's been crying in school when he does get there."

"His teacher called me to say that my son is worried about me."

"My oldest son, fifteen, has an uncontrollable temper since we lost our apartment. My other son, eleven, who's been an honor roll student for six years cries because he's missing school."

"Tomorrow is the City-Wide math test. She's been crying all day. She's an honor roll student and doesn't deserve this. This is not a place for children to be."

"My [one-year old] son has vomiting, diarrhea, and pinkeye. He's always getting sick. I've already taken him to the hospital three times."

"My [three-year old] son's throwing up blood. I couldn't explain to them that I worked all my life and all I want is a stable place to stay in so we can get our sleep."

"My [five-year old] daughter has been vomiting. My son has lead poisoning and he's not getting the right nutrients. He's been complaining about headaches."

"My [sixth-month old] daughter was healthy. Now she vomits incessantly—ten times a day."

"I don't eat. My [six-week old] baby is throwing up. He... is losing weight. The doctor wanted me to bring him in today because he hasn't had his shots. I was afraid to go because we might be logged out."

"My [four-year old] daughter had food poisoning and dehydration. She was hospitalized for almost a week."

"I'm totally confused. They tell you something different every time. I cry all the time. My seven-year old son cries all the time. He tells me, 'Mom, we don't have a home anymore.'"

"My girls—twelve and fifteen—are going through lots of stress. They want to be stable...I count down on the days we have to stay before they find us ineligible again."

21 Key Facts About American Children

3 in 5	preschoolers have mothers in the labor force.
2 in 5	preschoolers eligible for Head Start do not participate in the program.
1 in 3	is born to unmarried parents.
1 in 3	will be poor at some point in childhood.
1 in 3	is behind a year or more in school.
1 in 4	lives with only one parent.
1 in 5	is born to a mother who did not graduate from high school.
1 in 5	children under 3 is poor now.
1 in 6	is born to a mother who did not receive prenatal care in the first three months of pregnancy.
1 in 7	children eligible for federal child care assistance through the Child Care and Development Block Grant receives it.
1 in 8	has no health insurance.
1 in 8	never graduates from high school.
1 in 8	is born to a teenage mother.
1 in 8	lives in a family receiving food stamps.
1 in 12	has a disability.
1 in 13	was born at low birthweight.
1 in 16	lives in *extreme* poverty.
1 in 24	lives with neither parent.
1 in 60	sees their parent divorce in any year.
1 in 141	will die before their first birthday.
1 in 1,056	will be killed by firearms before age 20.

Moments in America for All Children

Every 9 seconds	a high school student drops out.*
Every 11 seconds	a child is reported abused or neglected.
Every 20 seconds	a child is arrested.
Every 24 seconds	a baby is born to an unmarried mother.
Every 37 seconds	a baby is born to a mother who is not a high school graduate.
Every 43 seconds	a baby is born into poverty.
Every minute	a baby is born to a teen mother.
Every minute	a baby is born without health insurance.
Every 2 minutes	a baby is born at low birthweight.
Every 4 minutes	a baby is born to a mother who received late or no prenatal care.
Every 4 minutes	a child is arrested for drug abuse.
Every 8 minutes	a child is arrested for violent crimes.
Every 19 minutes	a baby dies.
Every 42 minutes	a child or teen dies in an accident.
Every 3 hours	a child or teen is killed by a firearm.
Every 3 hours	a child or teen is a homicide victim.
Every 5 hours	a child or teen commits suicide.
Every day	a young person under 25 dies from HIV infection.

* Based on calculations per school day (180 days of seven hours each).

Each Day in America

5	children or teens commit suicide.
9	children or teens are homicide victims.
9	children or teens are killed by firearms.
34	children or teens die from accidents.
77	babies die.
180	children are arrested for violent crimes.
367	children are arrested for drug abuse.
401	babies are born to mothers who received late or no prenatal care.
825	babies are born at low birthweight.
1,310	babies are born without health insurance.
1,329	babies are born to teen mothers.
2,016	babies are born into poverty.
2,319	babies are born to mothers who are not high school graduates.
2,543	public school students are corporally punished.*
2,861	high school students drop out.*
3,585	babies are born to unmarried mothers.
4,248	children are arrested.
7,883	children are reported abused or neglected.
17,297	public school students are suspended.*

* Based on calculations per school day (180 days of seven hours each)

How America Ranks Among Industrialized Countries in Investing In and Protecting Children

1st in military technology
1st in military exports
1st in Gross Domestic Product
1st in the number of millionaires and billionaires
1st in health technology
1st in defense expenditures
10th in eighth grade science scores
12th in the percent of children in poverty
16th in living standards among our poorest one-fifth of children
17th in efforts to lift children out of poverty
17th in low-birthweight rates
18th in the gap between rich and poor children
21st in eighth grade math scores
23rd in infant mortality
Last in protecting our children against gun violence

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, U.S. children under age 15 are:

9 times more likely to die in a firearm accident
11 times more likely to commit suicide with a gun
12 times more likely to die from gunfire
16 times more likely to be murdered with a gun

than children in 25 other industrialized countries *combined*.

Of the 154 members of the United Nations, the United States of America and Somalia (which has no legally constituted government) are the only two nations that have failed to ratify the U.N. Convention on the Rights of the Child.

Black infant mortality rates in our nation's capital exceed those in 56 nations including Bahamas, Barbados, Fiji, and Jamaica.

DON'T YOU WISH POLITICIANS CARED AS MUCH ABOUT CHILDREN AFTER THEY'RE ELECTED?
Children's issues like preventive health care, child care, and a quality education are important to the future of our country. Make sure the candidates you vote for pay them more than lip service.
THE CHILDREN'S DEFENSE FUND
Kids can't vote. But you can.

Part II
The Movement and Act to Leave No Child Behind (S.940/ H.R. 1990)

Vote for
HANFT
VOTE
TELLIS
IF CHILDREN COULD VOTE, MAYBE POLITICIANS
WOULDN'T IGNORE THEIR PROBLEMS.
Elected officials respond to those with the power to elect them. So the needs of America's children, from child care, to immunization, to education, get little action. Children have no voice. Give them yours. THE CHILDREN'S DEFENSE FUND

A Comparison of the Dodd-Miller Comprehensive Act to Leave No Child Behind (S. 940/H.R. 1990) and the Bush Administration No Child Left Behind Act (H.R. 1)

	Act to Leave No Child Behind (S. 940/H.R. 1990)	No Child Left Behind Act (H.R. 1)
Reform education	Yes	Yes
Provide health care for America's uninsured children	Yes	No
Provide Head Start for all eligible preschoolers	Yes	No
Provide child care for all eligible children	Yes	No
Provide after-school and youth development programs for children and youths	Yes	No
Set goal to lift all children out of poverty	Yes	No
Provide tax relief for low-wage working families	Yes	No
Provide nutrition and housing assistance for millions of low-income children	Yes	No
Protect children from abuse and neglect and provide permanent families for all our vulnerable children and youths	Yes	No
Protect children from gun violence	Yes	No
Provide prevention and intervention to reduce juvenile delinquency	Yes	No
Build supportive communities for children and their families	Yes	No

How the Dodd-Miller Comprehensive Act to Leave No Child Behind (S. 940/H.R. 1990) Will Help Children

The Dodd-Miller Act to Leave No Child Behind (S. 940/H.R. 1990) (ALNCB) has 12 Senate and 83 House of Representatives co-sponsors and has been endorsed by over 1,200 national, regional, and state organizations, 79 mayors, and 313 state legislators. The *comprehensive* ALNCB addresses the needs of the whole child in their families and communities and seeks to bring to scale for all children the wonderful opportunities some children now have building on the best practices and ideas. The Dodd-Miller ALNCB will invest an estimated $75 billion a year in building healthy, educated children and strong families. That is seven-tenths of one percent of our 2003 gross domestic product (GDP) and only $6 billion more than the $69 billion annual tax cut the top one percent will get under the $1.3 trillion Bush tax cut plan enacted by Congress when it is fully phased in.

The Dodd-Miller comprehensive ALNCB is not to be confused with the Bush administration's single-issue "No Child Left Behind" education bill (H.R. 1) signed with great fanfare but backed by far too few resources. It could be an important step towards education reform if it is adequately funded and well implemented. Senator Edward Kennedy, a lead Senate sponsor of the Bush education reform bill, said on April 6, 2002: "We cannot remain silent when the President now fails to fund his own education bill. It was a wonderful promise but it has become a hollow promise."

Title I. The Act Will Give Every Child a Healthy Start

The Problem: More than 9 million American children lack health insurance; 90 percent of them live in working families. Over 6 million are eligible for Medicaid or the State Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP). Children without health insurance are as likely as insured children to get sick but are far less likely to see a doctor. A child who can't see the blackboard or hear a teacher is at risk of falling behind in school. Uninsured families often cannot afford routine, preventive pediatric care to protect their children from many serious illnesses and expensive emergency room treatment. As a result, a simple ear infection can become a severe problem that can lead to hearing loss as well as high costs.

The Act's Solutions: The Act will create a new children's health insurance program like Medicare for the elderly. Combined with Medicaid, CHIP, and employment based coverage, nearly all families will have guaranteed sources of coverage for their children. Comprehensive benefits for nearly every child would be available at birth and barriers to health insurance enrollment would be eliminated. Parents would have an array of choices for medical care including strong pediatric protections for children in HMOs. New initiatives would be offered to communities to reduce child lead poisoning and asthma.

Title II. The Act Will Help Parents Support Their Children's Healthy Development

The Problem: Parents are the most important people in children's lives. Raising children to be self-confident, responsible citizens is one of the most challenging and demanding jobs any adult can undertake. Yet so little preparation and education is provided for this crucial role and too few supports and policies recognize and help parents balance their work and child rearing responsibilities. Millions of parents today are struggling to balance the demands of family life and the jobs necessary to make ends meet. They worry about spending too little time with their children. Many lack adequate formal and informal systems of support including quality child care and safe and supervised after-school programs. Many parents need and are eager for information about child development and child rearing and access to community help when challenges arise.

The Act's Solutions: The Act will promote state and local parenting support and education to help parents appropriately care for and respond to their children's needs before problems develop. Community-based parenting support and education resource centers will offer parents ongoing consultation, respite, and access to comprehensive services. The Act also will extend health care to uninsured *parents* whose children are eligible for CHIP and Medicaid; enable more parents to benefit from the Family and Medical Leave Act; and strengthen the ability of non-custodial parents to contribute financially, emotionally, and in other positive ways to their children's development.

Title III. The Act Will Ensure Every Child a Head Start and a Better Education

The Problem: Research on brain development during the first three years of life makes clear the need for quality early childhood development experiences. Over half of mothers with infants under one and 71 percent of mothers with preschool children are in the labor force. In too many communities, quality child care and early childhood education are not available or affordable or are of poor quality. Parents face long waiting lists for child care assistance in many states: over 46,000 children in Florida and over 200,000 children in California. Yet only one in seven children currently eligible for assistance through the Child Care and Development Block Grant (CCDBG) receives it. Head Start serves only three out of five eligible children and Early Head Start less than five percent. Not to educate a child well is a sentence to economic death in today's world. Every 9 seconds a child drops out of school. Class sizes are too large and too many teachers are not trained in the subjects they teach. The richest school districts spend 56 percent more per student than the poorest districts. Seventy-eight percent of 4th graders, 75 percent of 8th graders, and 79 percent of 12th graders scored below the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) writing proficient level. Over the next decade, 2.2 million new teachers will be needed to replace those retiring or leaving the profession, to accommodate population increases, and to reduce class size. A recent Department of Education study found that three-quarters of the nation's schools have construction or modernization needs of over $127 billion.

The Act's Solutions: The Act will significantly expand quality early childhood development choices for parents including unpaid and paid parental leave and flex-time; and access to high quality early childhood programs including child care, Head Start, and Early Head Start for all eligible children; and preschool for all parents who desire it for their children. It will improve parental choices of child care providers and information about those choices; help states and communities better train and pay child care workers; reduce barriers to enrollment; and improve the quality of all child care programs to strengthen the development of our children during the most rapid years of brain, social, and emotional development, and provide them a solid foundation for learning and achieving in school.

The Act will provide significant additional funding to help local school districts recruit, train, and hire additional teachers to improve the teaching workforce and reduce class-size. It provides new tax incentives for school construction and modernization as well as direct grant assistance to communities; expands books in the homes of low-income families with young children; and assures children in poor areas instructional materials, curricula, and qualified teachers comparable to other students.

Title IV. The Act Will Provide Tax Relief to Help Low-Wage Working Families Escape Poverty and Become Self-Sufficient

The Problem: Too often, tax credits are unavailable to low-income families because many credits are not "refundable" — that is, families with little or no income tax liability do not receive assistance although they work and pay payroll, sales, and other taxes. Many provisions in the law have not been updated in years, even decades, and need to more accurately reflect the costs of raising a child. *A majority of poor children live in working families who cannot make ends meet.*

The Act's Solutions: The Act seeks to make the $1,000 child tax credit *fully* refundable for all families with children which will lift over one million children from poverty; increase and make refundable the Dependent Care Tax Credit (DCTC); expand the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) for families with three or more children; and reduce the marriage penalty for families eligible for the EITC.

Title V. The Act Will Provide Every Child a Fair Start and Chance to Escape Poverty

The Problem: 11.6 million children, one in six, live in poverty in America today. More than three-fourths of all poor children live in working families; 4.6 million poor children live in extreme poverty. Despite very significant increases in family employment that helped to reduce child poverty between 1995-2000, a period of economic prosperity, one year of recession has hit children in working families and erased much of the earlier progress. Poor children are more likely than non-poor children to be hungry, live in unsafe or overcrowded housing, do poorly in school, enter school behind their peers, and be at greater risk of abuse and neglect and other violence.

The Act's Solutions: The Act seeks to help low-wage working parents become more self-sufficient through a range of work supports including the child care, health care, education and training they need to keep their jobs and pay their bills. It requires caseworkers to be trained and knowledgeable about community resources to help eligible families and encourages states to reduce bureaucratic barriers that prevent families from receiving food stamps, Medicaid, housing, and child care assistance. The Act would allow education and training to be counted to meet federal work participation requirements; would allow parents to combine partial cash assistance with their own earnings for longer periods of time; and would allow more child support collections to be passed on directly to the family.

Title VI. The Act Will Assure Every Child Enough to Eat

The Problem: Nearly 13 million children live in families who are not getting enough to eat, the Department of Agriculture estimates. A 2001 Second Harvest National Food Bank Network study found children constituted more than 38 percent of emergency food assistance requests. Many children who are U.S. citizens do not receive food stamps and other benefits because their parents are immigrants. A hungry child can't concentrate to learn in school and all children need nutritious food to grow and develop physically, intellectually, and emotionally.

The Act's Solutions: The Act will restore food stamp eligibility to legal immigrants; increase food stamps for low-wage families with children, particularly those transitioning from welfare to work and families with high housing costs; expand the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) to more preschool children and toddlers; and increase the number of after-school programs offering snacks and meals. Child hunger does not end with the school day or year.

Title VII. The Act Will Help Assure More Children a Place to Call Home

The Problem: Millions of children are in families who live in doubled-up, overcrowded or substandard housing, or are homeless. A recent study by the Department of Housing and Urban Development found 4.9 million households have "worst case housing needs." Working families with children are the fastest growing group. The amount of affordable housing for low-wage renters continues to decline. Parents often pay more than half their income for rent. Even so in many communities there are such long waiting lists for assistance that some communities have stopped adding names.

The Act's Solutions: The Act will provide one million new Section 8 vouchers over the next 10 years; repair and rehabilitate public housing for families with children; and increase grants to states to expand the supply of affordable housing.

Title VIII. The Act Will Help Every Child Get a Safe Start

The Problem: Every day, more than 7,900 children are reported victims of abuse and neglect. In 1999, approximately 826,000 children were confirmed victims of child abuse and neglect. In many states and communities, the child protection system, stretched to its breaking point, is unable to respond adequately to the complex needs of troubled families. As a result, children die, suffer, and are at risk because they do not get help.

The Act's Solutions: The Act will provide more children safe, nurturing, and permanent families; extend federal support for services to children and parents who come to the attention of the child welfare system; help prevent family crises; and reunify children safely with their families. When children must be removed from their families and placed in foster care, the Act will assure children permanent adoptive families or permanent care with relatives when they cannot return home. The Act also encourages effective approaches to prevent and treat domestic violence, alcohol and drug abuse, and mental health problems in young children.

Title IX. The Act Supports Successful Transition to Adulthood Through Positive Youth Development Measures

The Problem: Nearly seven million children are left home alone often after school when they are more likely to engage in risky behaviors like smoking, drinking, sex, or crime. Violent juvenile crime peaks between 3:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m.

The Act's Solutions: The Act will increase funding for after-school, summer, and youth development and employment programs like YouthBuild, the 21st Century Community Learning Centers after-school programs, and programs in the Younger Americans Act. Investment in comprehensive after-school programs can dramatically reduce youth crime and violence. Youths who participate in after-school and youth development programs are less likely to use drugs, drink alcohol, become sexually active or smoke, and are more likely to have stronger interpersonal skills and higher academic achievement.

Title X. The Act Will Assure Every Child a Safe Start — Juvenile Justice

The Problem: A child is arrested for a crime every 20 seconds. However overall juvenile crime rates have been declining since 1994. Although the vast majority of children involved in criminal activity commit nonviolent offenses, states are increasingly treating youthful offenders as adults subjecting them to adult sentences and adult prisons.

The Act's Solutions: The Act provides a comprehensive approach that includes both prevention and appropriate intervention to help reduce juvenile delinquency, protect the public, and enable young people to become productive, law-abiding adults. The Act will

increase funding for delinquency prevention programs; create incentives to states to provide sufficient treatment and after-care services for delinquent youths; prohibit children from being detained with adults; ensure youthful offenders appropriate health, mental health, education, substance abuse and counseling services during periods of detention and after release; and help states reduce disproportionate minority confinement and ensure minorities in the juvenile justice system fair treatment.

Title XI. The Act Will Help Keep Children Safe From Guns

The Problem: Over 3,300 children and teens were killed by gunfire in 1999—nine each day. About 59 percent were homicides and about one-third were suicides. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention reports the rate of firearm deaths among American children under 15 is almost 12 times higher than those for comparable children in 25 other industrialized countries *combined.*

The Act's Solutions: The Act will close loopholes in our nation's gun laws to ensure that only law-abiding citizens can legally purchase a gun; require mandatory safety locks with the sale of handguns; ban the importation of large capacity ammunition clips capable of firing more than 10 rounds; and prohibit the possession of assault weapons and handguns by individuals under 21 years of age.

Title XII. Every Child Needs the Support of the Entire Community

The Problem: Children do not come in pieces. They come in families and in communities. Physical and cultural environmental safety, crime prevention, the media, state, and national economies all affect parents' abilities to meet their children's needs and shape their values. Employer benefit coverage and work practices can make it harder or easier for parents to meet their child rearing responsibilities. Children and families need the support not only of parents but of the entire community, from private employers to local community organizations, to thrive. Private employers can play an important role in creating family-friendly workplaces that allow parents to succeed at work and at home.

The Act's Solutions: The Act directs the Secretary of Health and Human Services (HHS) to establish a blue-ribbon commission to identify and highlight family-friendly practices the private sector and employers can promote. It also strengthens national data collection and dissemination so that policymakers and citizens can assess and respond to the needs of children and families in our Union.

We can achieve the national policy vision set forth in the Act. But it will require homework, hard work, persistence, passion, and prayer. It will also require public education, mobilizing, and organizing.

9 MILLION UNINSURED CHILDREN. HOW SICK IS THAT ?

WANTED 3 MILLION BULLET-PROOF VESTS, EXTRA SMALL.

For more information on how you can become a part of the Movement to Leave No Child Behind please contact:

Children's Defense Fund
Movement to Leave No Child Behind
25 E Street, NW
Washington, DC 20001
Phone: (202) 662-3502 or (800) CDF-1200
Web site: www.childrensdefense.org

Victories to Date in the Movement and Act to Leave No Child Behind (S. 940/ H.R. 1990)

Important progress has been made for children since the Act to Leave No Child Behind was introduced in May 2001.

- More than 500,000 children will be lifted out of poverty over the next 10 years as a result of Congressional action in 2001 to double the Child Tax Credit from $500 to $1000 and make it *partially* refundable. While the Act still seeks to make the Child Tax Credit *fully* refundable to lift over one million children from poverty, the 2001 improvements to the Child Tax Credit enacted will provide $8 billion in new tax assistance to millions of additional children in low- income working families when fully phased in.

- Improvements were made in the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) to provide some marriage penalty relief for low-income married couples and in the Dependent Care Tax Credit (DCTC). Refundability provisions in the Act to help low-income families with their child care expenses were not included in the DCTC.

- The "No Child Left Behind" education reform act (H.R. 1) contains some provisions similar to those proposed in the comprehensive ALNCB including disaggregated testing; report cards and accountability provisions; improvements in teacher quality; increased attention to literacy and early childhood efforts; and the new Foundations for Learning Grants Program.

- Congress rejected a majority of the Bush administration's proposed budget cuts, freezes, and bare cost of living increases in a wide range of key discretionary children's programs and approved funding increases for Head Start and Early Head Start that will allow about 15,000 additional infants, toddlers, and preschoolers to enroll. Additional funding was approved for early learning, child care, after-school care, and childhood immunizations.

- Two initiatives in the Act were included in the Promoting Safe and Stable Families Amendments Act of 2001 which authorized funding increases to prevent child abuse and neglect, help families in crisis, promote adoptions, and provide new education and training vouchers for the estimated 20,000 youths who age out of foster care each year and have no families to return to.

In 2002, in addition to our top child care and welfare reform priorities, we are working hard to restore health care and food stamp benefits to legal immigrant children and to provide families of children with disabilities the ability to buy into Medicaid for the treatment their children need.

Act to Leave No Child Behind
(S. 940/H.R. 1990)
Co-Sponsors
as of April 2002

Senate (12)

Sen. Dodd (D-CT)

Sen. Boxer (D-CA)
Sen. Corzine (D-NJ)
Sen. Inouye (D-HI)
Sen. Mikulski (D-MD)
Sen. Sarbanes (D-MD)
Sen. Wellstone (D-MN)
Sen. Clinton (D-NY)
Sen. Dayton (D-MN)
Sen. Kennedy (D-MA)
Sen. Reed (D-RI)
Sen. Schumer (D-NY)

House (83)

Rep. Miller (D-CA)

Rep. Abercrombie (D-HI)
Rep. Baldwin (D-WI)
Rep. Berman (D-CA)
Rep. Bonior (D-MI)
Rep. Brown, Sherrod (D-OH)
Rep. Christensen (D-VI)
Rep. Clayton (D-NC)
Rep. Conyers (D-MI)
Rep. Cummings (D-MD)
Rep. Davis, Susan (D-CA)
Rep. DeLauro (D-CT)
Rep. Eshoo (D-CA)
Rep. Filner (D-CA)
Rep. Frank (D-MA)
Rep. Hastings, Alcee (D-FL)
Rep. Hoeffel (D-PA)
Rep. Jackson Lee (D-TX)
Rep. Johnson, Eddie Bernice (D-TX)
Rep. Kaptur (D-OH)
Rep. Kildee (D-MI)
Rep. Kucinich (D-OH)
Rep. Langevin (D-RI)
Rep. Lewis, John (D-GA)
Rep. Maloney, James (D-CT)
Rep. Meek (D-FL)
Rep. Millender-McDonald (D-CA)
Rep. Moran, James (D-VA)
Rep. Nadler (D-NY)
Rep. Norton (D-DC)
Rep. Pascrell (D-NJ)
Rep. Pelosi (D-CA)
Rep. Rodriguez (D-TX)
Rep. Sanchez (D-CA)
Rep. Schakowsky (D-IL)
Rep. Serrano (D-NY)
Rep. Solis (D-CA)
Rep. Thompson, Bennie (D-MS)
Rep. Towns (D-NY)
Rep. Waters (D-CA)
Rep. Watt (D-NC)
Rep. Woolsey (D-CA)
Rep. Andrews (D-NJ)
Rep. Becerra (D-CA)
Rep. Blagojevich (D-IL)
Rep. Brown, Corrine (D-FL)
Rep. Carson (D-IN)
Rep. Clay (D-MO)
Rep. Clyburn (D-SC)
Rep. Crowley (D-NY)
Rep. Davis, Danny (D-IL)
Rep. DeFazio (D-OR)
Rep. Engel (D-NY)
Rep. Fattah (D-PA)
Rep. Ford (D-TN)
Rep. Gutierrez (D-IL)
Rep. Hinojosa (D-TX)
Rep. Jackson, Jr (D-IL)
Rep. Jefferson (D-LA)
Rep. Jones, Stephanie Tubbs (D-OH)
Rep. Kennedy, Patrick J. (D-RI)
Rep. Kilpatrick (D-MI)
Rep. LaFalce (D-NY)
Rep. Lee (D-CA)
Rep. Lofgren (D-CA)
Rep. McKinney (D-GA)
Rep. Meeks (D-NY)
Rep. Mink (D-HI)
Rep. Morella (R-MD)
Rep. Napolitano (D-CA)
Rep. Owens (D-NY)
Rep. Payne (D-NJ)
Rep. Rangel (D-NY)
Rep. Rush (D-IL)
Rep. Sanders (I-VT)
Rep. Scott (D-VA)
Rep. Slaughter (D-NY)
Rep. Stark (D-CA)
Rep. Tierney (D-MA)
Rep. Velazquez (D-NY)
Rep. Watson (D-CA)
Rep. Waxman (D-CA)
Rep. Wynn (D-MD)

Wednesdays In Washington and Wednesdays At Home™ (WIW/WAH)
May 8, 2002- March 1, 2003 Action Events Calendar

(larger national events in bold)

May 8	**Wednesday release of The State of Children in the Union Action Guide**
May 15	WIW/WAH
May 21-22	WIW/WAH
May 25 - 31	*Congressional Recess (WAH - calls, visits at home)*
May 29 – June 1	**Stand for Children Day Weekend** Petition gathering events/Mayors proclaiming Stand for Children Day and urging increased support for quality child care and other work supports for children in working families
June 5	WIW/WAH
June 12	WIW/WAH
June 19	WIW/WAH
June 25-26	WIW/WAH
July 1-5	*Congressional Recess (WAH - calls, visits at home)*
July 10	WIW/WAH
July 17	WIW/WAH
July 24	WIW/WAH
July 29- September 3	*Congressional Summer Recess* WAHs – Child Watches in target states, community forums, e-mails, calls, and visits seeking increased child care and other supports for working families
September 4	WIW/WAH
September 18	WIW/WAH
September 25	WIW/WAH

Wednesdays In Washington and Wednesdays At Home™ (WIW/WAH)
May 8, 2002- March 1, 2003 Action Events Calendar

(larger national events in bold)

October 2	WIW/WAH
October 4	*Congressional Adjournment*
October 18-20	**Children's Sabbath celebration weekend in congregations of all faiths**
October 23	WIW/WAH
October 30	WAH - Voter education for children Candles of hope vigils in congregations
November 5	Election Day
November	Guides for study and prayer for children during Advent & Hanukkah
November 30	Hanukkah begins
December 4	Preparation and prayer for children during Holy season
December 11	Preparation and prayer for children during Holy season
December 18	Preparation and prayer for children during Holy season
December 25	Christmas—prayer for poor children
January 8	WIW/WAH
January 15	WIW/WAH
January 22	WIW/WAH
January 29	WIW/WAH
February 5	WIW/WAH
February 9-12	**CDF National Conference: Leave No Child Behind®**
February 11	**Defining moment Wednesday In Washington (Jericho March)**

Become a Leave No Child Behind® City

We are pleased that 79 mayors have endorsed the Movement and Act to Leave No Child Behind (S. 940/H.R. 1990).

- Issue a Proclamation or Resolution endorsing the Movement to Leave No Child Behind and declaring your city is a Leave No Child Behind City.

- Proclaim June 1, 2002 Stand For Children Day and urge all the citizens in your city to stand up for quality child care and lifting every family out of poverty. (See proclamation on page 35.)

- Sponsor the Movement to Leave No Child Behind's media and public education campaign in your city, through transit ads, billboards, and public service announcements.

- Proclaim the third weekend of every October Children's Sabbath Weekend and celebrate with a citywide interfaith service and urge people of faith to take specific actions to help children every year including petitioning elected officials.

- Sponsor or participate in a Child Watch Visitation program and invite your members of Congress, state and local elected officials, and media leaders to experience firsthand the needs of children and successful programs in your city, and how the Act will strengthen, support, and enable such programs to reach many more children in your community.

For more information please contact:

Children's Defense Fund
Campaign to Leave No Child Behind
25 E Street, NW
Washington, DC 20001
Phone: (202) 662-3564 or (800) CDF-1200
Fax: (202) 662-3550 E-mail: rfishbane@childrensdefense.org
Web site: www.childrensdefense.org

Proclamation – Declaring Our City to be A "Leave No Child Behind City" and Endorsing the Movement to Leave No Child Behind

WHEREAS, nearly 12 million children in America live in poverty; and

WHEREAS, 9.2 million children in America are without health insurance; and

WHEREAS, only three out of five eligible preschool children are able to participate in Head Start programs; and

WHEREAS, only one in seven eligible children receives child care assistance through the Child Care and Development Block Grant, even though the average cost of center-based child care in urban areas exceeds the cost of public college tuition in 48 states; and

WHEREAS, approximately one third of parents who stop receiving Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) find little or no work; and

WHEREAS, requests for food assistance from families with children increased an average of 19 percent over the last year, the highest rate of increase since 1991; and

WHEREAS, 3.6 million children in America are suffering "worst-case" housing needs with their families paying over half of their income for rent or living in overcrowded or substandard housing; and

WHEREAS, 7 million children in America are regularly left home alone without adult supervision often after school; and

WHEREAS, an estimated 7,900 children a day are reported to public welfare agencies as abused or neglected and over 2.5 million children are being raised by grandparents or other relatives, or are in foster family homes, group homes, or institutions; and

WHEREAS, 9 children and teens in America are killed by firearms every day; and

WHEREAS, the City of [CITY NAME] has a strong commitment to improving the lives of children and ensuring that all of our children have the opportunity to grow up healthy, safe, educated, and free from poverty;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City of [CITY NAME] will hereafter be designated as a "Leave No Child Behind City"; and

FURTHER, that the City of [CITY NAME] endorses the Movement to Leave No Child Behind.

Become a Leave No Child Behind® County

- Issue a Proclamation or Resolution endorsing the Movement to Leave No Child Behind and declaring your county is a Leave No Child Behind County.

- Sponsor the Movement to Leave No Child Behind's media and public education campaign in your county, through transit ads, billboards, and public service announcements.

- Proclaim the third weekend of every October Children's Sabbath Weekend and celebrate with a citywide interfaith service and urge people of faith to take specific actions to help children every year including petitioning elected officials.

- Sponsor or participate in a Child Watch Visitation program and invite your members of Congress, state and local elected officials, and media leaders to experience firsthand the needs of children and successful programs in your city, and how the Act will strengthen, support, and enable such programs to reach many more children in your community.

For more information please contact:
Children's Defense Fund
Campaign to Leave No Child Behind
25 E Street, NW
Washington, DC 20001
Phone: (202) 662-3564 or (800) CDF-1200
Fax: (202) 662-3550 E-mail: rfishbane@childrensdefense.org
Web site: www.childrensdefense.org

Proclamation – Declaring Our County to be A "Leave No Child Behind County" and Endorsing the Movement to Leave No Child Behind

WHEREAS, nearly 12 million children in America live in poverty; and

WHEREAS, 9.2 million children in America are without health insurance; and

WHEREAS, only three out of five eligible preschool children are able to participate in Head Start programs; and

WHEREAS, only one in seven eligible children receives child care assistance through the Child Care and Development Block Grant, even though the average cost of center-based child care in urban areas exceeds the cost of public college tuition in 48 states; and

WHEREAS, approximately one third of parents who stop receiving Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) find little or no work; and

WHEREAS, requests for food assistance from families with children increased an average of 19 percent over the last year, the highest rate of increase since 1991; and

WHEREAS, 3.6 million children in America are suffering "worst-case" housing needs with their families paying over half of their income for rent or living in overcrowded or substandard housing; and

WHEREAS, 7 million children in America are regularly left home alone without adult supervision often after school; and

WHEREAS, an estimated 7,900 children a day are reported to public welfare agencies as abused or neglected and over 2.5 million children are being raised by grandparents or other relatives, or are in foster family homes, group homes, or institutions; and

WHEREAS, 9 children and teens in America are killed by firearms every day; and

WHEREAS, [NAME] County has a strong commitment to improving the lives of children and ensuring that all of our children have the opportunity to grow up healthy, safe, educated, and free from poverty,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that [NAME] County will hereafter be designated as a "Leave No Child Behind County."

Become a Leave No Child Behind® Congregation

- Educate your congregation about the urgent needs of children and families including poverty, child care, health care, neglect and abuse, and other violence and find ways within your faith tradition to respond.

- Engage in at least one ministry of compassion for children like after-school programs, Freedom Schools, child care, mentoring, or tutoring. (For more information on Freedom Schools, see CDF Resources to Help You Leave No Child Behind on page 38.)

- Sustain participation in the Movement to Leave No Child Behind by annually celebrating Children's Sabbath during the third weekend of October and using and sharing CDF religious action resources including devotional guides for Advent or Lent; annual interfaith manuals and videos for the Children's Sabbath; and *Hold My Hand: Prayers for Building a Movement to Leave No Child Behind.*

- Attend the annual Samuel DeWitt Proctor Institute for Child Advocacy Ministry at CDF-Haley Farm each third week in July for training on how a person of faith and a congregation can effectively stand for children.

- Advocate for systemic change by participating in Wednesdays In Washington and At Home™, conducting study and prayer groups in your congregation, and petitioning your community and political leaders for children.

For more information please contact:
Children's Defense Fund
Religious Action Division
25 E Street, NW
Washington, DC 20001
Phone: (202) 662-3589 or (800) CDF-1200
Fax: (202) 662-3570
Web site: www.childrensdefense.org

Proclamation
Declaring June 1, 2002 Stand For Children Day

WHEREAS, nearly 12 million children in America live in poverty—77 percent of whom live in working households; and

WHEREAS, only one in seven eligible children receives child care assistance through the Child Care and Development Block Grant, even though the average cost of center-based child care in urban areas exceeds the cost of public college tuition in 48 states; and

WHEREAS, only three out of five eligible preschool children are able to participate in Head Start programs; and less than five percent get Early Head Start; and

WHEREAS, 9.2 million children in America lack health insurance—90 percent of whom live in working families; and

WHEREAS, approximately one-third of parents who stop receiving Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) find little or no work; and

WHEREAS, more than half the requests for emergency food assistance in 2001 were from children or their parents, and requests from families with children increased an average of 19 percent over the last year; and

WHEREAS, 3.6 million children in America are suffering "worst-case" housing needs with their families paying over half of their income for rent or living in overcrowded or substandard housing; and

WHEREAS, 1 million children are homeless at least part of the year; and

WHEREAS, 7 million children in America are regularly left home alone without adult supervision often after school; and

WHEREAS, an estimated 7,900 children a day are reported abused or neglected and over 2.5 million children are being raised by grandparents or other relatives or are in foster family homes, group homes, or institutions; and

WHEREAS, 9 children and teens in America are killed by firearms every day; and

WHEREAS, on Stand For Children Day in 1996, over 300,000 people attended the largest demonstration for children in United States history at the Lincoln Memorial; and

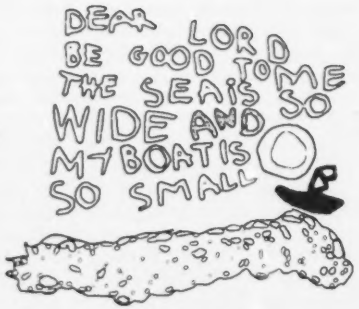
WHEREAS, every year since 1996, local communities in every state have celebrated Stand For Children Day as a time to recommit to ensuring our children a Healthy Start, a Head Start, a Fair Start, a Safe Start, and a Moral Start in life and successful passage to adulthood with the help of caring families and communities; and

WHEREAS, Stand For Children Day will be celebrated on June 1, 2002 in counties, cities, and towns throughout the country; and

WHEREAS, Stand For Children Day seeks to address the needs of children in our [county/city] especially the need for quality child care and other supports working families need to get children ready for school and keep them safe when parents work.

WHEREAS, the [CITY OR COUNTY NAME] has a strong commitment to improving the lives of children and ensuring that all of our children have the opportunity to grow up healthy, safe, educated, and free from poverty;

NOW, THEREFORE, the [CITY OR COUNTY NAME] hereby declares June 1, 2002 to be Stand For Children Day and urges all the citizens and residents of our counties and cities to speak out and stand together to make quality child care available to 2 million additional children.



A Pledge to Leave No Child Behind®

- ☐ I will participate in Wednesdays in Washington and at Home.
- ☐ I will get one ____, five ____, 10 ___ more people to join me in the movement.
- ☐ I will adopt my Members of Congress. I will visit, e-mail, or call to educate them about the needs of children in my community.
- ☐ *I will write a letter to the editor of my local newspaper about the needs of children in my* community and how the Movement to Leave No Child Behind® will help them.
- ☐ I will organize or participate in a Child Watch to learn about the needs of children and also to educate my Member of Congress, Senators, and other opinion leaders about what they can do to improve the lives of children in our community.

☐ **I will pray for our children and for our leaders that they will help justice roll down like waters and make bloom all the deserts in our children's lives.**

For more information on how you can join the movement to Leave No Child Behind®, complete and return this commitment sheet by fax to (202) 662-1910 or mail it to the address listed below. Please print all contact information. You can also sign up on our website at www.childrensdefense.org/campaign.

Name_____

Home Street Address _____

City, State, and Zip _____

Daytime Phone_____ Evening phone _____

Email (work)_____ Email (home) _____

Fax_____Organization _____

Children's Defense Fund
Campaign to Leave No Child Behind
25 E Street, NW, Washington, DC 20001
1-800-CDF-1200 or 202-628-8787
www.childrensdefense.org

CDF Resources to Help You Leave No Child Behind

Background Materials on Key Sections of the Act to Leave No Child Behind (S. 940/H.R. 1990)
For more information on the Dodd-Miller comprehensive Act to Leave No Child Behind, this publication contains background information on major areas of the bill, with details on the problems it addresses, the approaches set forth in the legislation, and the number of children whose lives will be effected by the enactment of—or failure to enact—the essential measures outlined in the legislation.

The State of America's Children Yearbook

The Children's Defense Fund's annual analysis of the status of U.S. children brings you the latest developments and data in family income, child health, child care and early childhood development, education, juvenile justice and youth development, and children and families in crisis. Includes detailed tables showing national trends and state rankings.

Hold My Hand: Prayers for Building a Movement to Leave No Child Behind

An inspiring collection of heartfelt prayers, including information on CDF's Movement to Leave No Child Behind by CDF President Marian Wright Edelman.

Repairers of the Breach: Congregations Acting to Leave No Child Behind®
2002 Children's Sabbath Manual
Learn how to plan and promote your Children's Sabbath with this easy-to-use, single-volume manual. Includes practical activities for adults and children; worship services for Protestant, Catholic, Jewish, and other faith traditions; lesson plans; and resources for follow-up activities within every faith community.

Holding Children in Prayer: A Lenten Guide

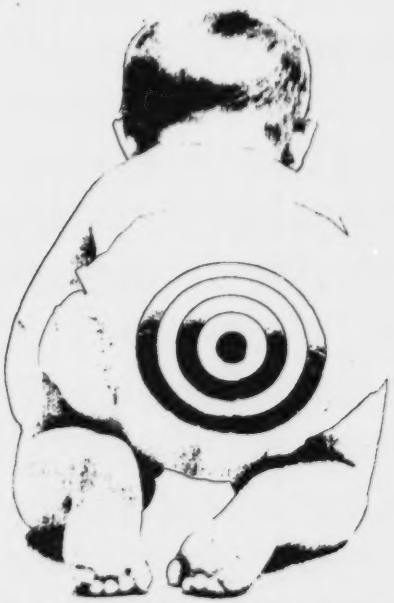
Holding Children in Prayer: An Advent Guide

These guides are for people of faith to use in their daily time of devotion and spiritual discipline during the seasons of Lent and Advent. Each day is organized with an assigned scripture reading, a brief reflection, and a prayer that educates, renews, and challenges us as we seek to be faithful to God's call to welcome and care for all children.

Summer Freedom School and After-School Curriculum Guides and Book List and Latino Supplement and Book List
Freedom schools, developed by CDF's Black Community Crusade for Children (BCCC), provide academic and cultural enrichment, recreation, and nutrition to children during the summer and throughout the year after school. These curriculum guides and lesson plans incorporate the latest research and best practices, including carefully selected books and activities designed to excite, motivate, and empower children and parents, allowing children to discover their individual identities and talents.

For more information or to order these and other resources, call our Publications Department at (202) 662-3652, fax us at (202) 628-8333, or visit our Web Site at www.childrensdefense.org.

Part III
State of Children in the States



WHEN IT'S BUDGET CUTTING TIME, THEY ALWAYS START WITH THE EASIEST TARGETS.

Children can't stand up for themselves. Which makes them an easy mark for politicians when they're cutting back. Give children a voice. Yours. Kids can't vote, but you can. THE CHILDREN'S DEFENSE FUND

State of Children in the States

Over the past several years, states have enjoyed tremendous prosperity and, for many, significant surpluses. During this period states had a choice—would they take advantage of a wonderful opportunity to invest in children? Unfortunately, many states did not. Instead, states passed tax cuts for the past seven consecutive years totaling approximately $36 billion, invested in major capital construction projects, and added to rainy day funds.

The fiscal realities for states now have changed. Forty three states and the District of Columbia report revenues below forecasted levels, and 21 states and the District of Columbia already are spending above budgeted levels. Total budget shortfalls, before the end of 2001, already equaled $40 billion.

States once again have choices about how they will address their budget crises. Will they balance their budgets on the backs of children and families or protect children and families from budget cuts? The Center on Budget and Policy Priorities reports that more than one third of the states have already made specific cuts to services for low-income families and other human services programs.

The Movement and Act to Leave No Child Behind seek to help all American children start life on a more level playing field. A child's health and educational status should not depend on the lottery of geography at birth. A child, whether in Mississippi, Minnesota or Maine, deserves an equal chance to live, learn, and grow. Yet today in America, the richest nation on earth, where a child lives too often does decide his fate.

Use the resources in this action guide to educate yourself and to raise public awareness about the needs of children and families in your states and compare how children in your state fare with children in other states. Study the state tables. If you are among the best, strive to do even better and put more energy into those areas where you might not be doing as well. If you are among the worst, give your officials the support they need to increase investments for children.

Where Are the Children?

The majority of all children in America live in nine states:

California	Pennsylvania
Texas	Ohio
New York	Michigan
Florida	Georgia
Illinois	

The majority of all poor children live in eight states:

California	Illinois
Texas	Ohio
New York	Pennsylvania
Florida	Georgia

The majority of all poor preschool children live in eight states:

California	Illinois
Texas	Pennsylvania
New York	Ohio
Florida	Michigan

The majority of White children live in 10 states:

California	Ohio
Texas	Illinois
New York	Michigan
Florida	New Jersey
Pennsylvania	Indiana

The majority of Black children live in eight states:

New York	California
Florida	Illinois
Texas	North Carolina
Georgia	Louisiana

The majority of Hispanic children live in two states*; almost two-thirds live in 4 states:

California*	New York
Texas*	Florida

The majority of Asian and Pacific Islander children live in three states:

California
New York
Texas

The majority of American Indian and Alaskan Native children live in six states:

California	New Mexico
Arizona	Alaska
Oklahoma	Texas

10 Best and Worst States on Key Child Indicators

Children Living in Poverty

In America, the richest nation on earth, where a child lives can decide his fate. Children in some states and the District of Columbia are almost three or more times as likely to be living in poor families as children in other states.

Best States			Worst States		
Rank		Rate	Rank		Rate
1	New Hampshire	7.1%	51	District of Columbia	30.9%
2	Minnesota	9.3	50	West Virginia	27.7
3	Colorado	9.8	49	Louisiana	27.6
4	Utah	10.7	48	Mississippi	25.8
5	New Jersey	10.8	46	Arkansas	25.5
6	Kansas	11.1	46	New Mexico	25.5
7	Connecticut	11.3	45	Arizona	22.5
8	Nebraska	11.4	44	Kentucky	21.8
9	Delaware	11.6	43	Texas	21.6
10	Maine	11.9	42	Alabama	21.4

See table on page 50

Preschool Children Living in Poverty

Best States			Worst States		
Rank		Rate	Rank		Rate
1	New Hampshire	8.6%	51	District of Columbia	32.1%
2	Colorado	11.0	50	Arkansas	31.2
2	Hawaii	11.0	49	Louisiana	30.8
4	New Jersey	11.4	48	West Virginia	30.5
5	Minnesota	11.5	47	Mississippi	28.8
6	Connecticut	11.9	46	New Mexico	27.4
7	Maine	13.9	45	Alabama	25.6
8	Nebraska	14.0	43	Arizona	25.0
9	Nevada	14.6	43	Tennessee	25.0
9	Virginia	14.6	42	Oklahoma	24.8

See table on page 50

Cash Assistance for Working Poor Families

Despite political rhetoric about the value of work, only a handful of states reward work by allowing a family earning poverty-level wages to continue receiving some cash assistance. In 11 states, families earning less than 50 percent of the poverty level are expected to support their families with no additional cash assistance.

Best States			Worst States		
Rank		Percent of Poverty	Rank		Percent of Poverty
1	California	127.7%	51	Alabama	17.7%
2	Minnesota	121.0	50	Louisiana	26.8
3	Alaska	113.4	49	Texas	27.4
4	Rhode Island	110.5	48	Indiana	32.7
5	New Hampshire	103.7	47	Missouri	33.0
6	Hawaii	102.4	46	Nevada	37.9
7	Connecticut	100.0	45	Mississippi	39.6
7	New York	100.0	44	Colorado	44.2
7	Virginia	100.0	43	Georgia	44.4
10	Illinois	97.8	42	Wyoming	46.7

See table on page 51

Maximum Cash Welfare Benefits as a Percent of Poverty

No state in America pays cash assistance benefits for a family of three equal to as much as two-thirds of the poverty level. In 15 states, benefits total less than 25 percent of the poverty level.

Best States				Worst States			
Rank		Monthly Benefit	Percent of Poverty	Rank		Monthly Benefit	Percent of Poverty
1	Alaska	$ 923	60.6%	51	Alabama	$ 164	13.5%
2	Wisconsin	673	55.2	50	Mississippi	170	13.9
3	Vermont	669	54.9	49	Tennessee	185	15.2
4	California	645	52.9	48	Texas	201	16.5
5	Connecticut	636	52.2	46	Arkansas	204	16.7
6	Massachusetts	618	50.7	46	South Carolina	203	16.7
7	New Hampshire	600	49.2	45	Louisiana	240	19.7
8	New York	577	47.3	44	Kentucky	262	21.5
9	Rhode Island	554	45.4	43	North Carolina	272	22.3
10	Washington	546	44.8	42	Georgia	280	23.0

See table on page 51

Affordability of Rent

In every state, a worker making the minimum wage must use more than one-third of before-tax earnings to rent a typically priced apartment; in 10 states and the District of Columbia, more than 50 percent of earnings.

Best States			Worst States		
Rank		Percent	Rank		Percent
1	Missouri	35.9%	51	Hawaii	81.6%
2	Oklahoma	36.6	50	District of Columbia	78.4
3	Alabama	37.4	49	New Hampshire	73.3
4	Kentucky	37.9	48	New Jersey	70.1
5	Louisiana	38.0	47	Nevada	68.7
6	California	39.1	46	Alaska	65.1
7	Idaho	39.3	45	Vermont	58.6
8	Washington	39.8	44	Delaware	55.1
9	Indiana	40.9	43	Connecticut	54.3
10	Arkansas	41.1	41	Rhode Island	52.8
			41	Arizona	52.8

See table on page 51

Children with No Health Insurance

9.2 million children—or almost one in eight—have no health insurance. In only 18 states are more than 90 percent of children insured.

Best States			Worst States		
Rank		Percent	Rank		Percent
1	Rhode Island	4.5%	51	Texas	23.0%
2	Pennsylvania	6.3	50	New Mexico	21.4
3	Iowa	6.6	49	Arizona	19.6
4	Missouri	6.7	48	Louisiana	19.2
5	Connecticut	6.9	47	Montana	18.9
6	New Hampshire	7.1	46	Oklahoma	18.6
7	Wisconsin	7.2	45	Nevada	18.0
8	Vermont	7.3	44	California	17.2
9	Massachusetts	7.7	43	Florida	17.0
10	Nebraska	7.8	42	Idaho	16.9

See table on page 56

Early Prenatal Care

Prenatal care in the first three months of pregnancy can dramatically affect outcomes for children. Yet there is no state where all pregnant women receive early prenatal care, and only two where more than nine out of 10 babies are born to mothers who received early prenatal care.

Best States			Worst States		
Rank		Percent	Rank		Percent
1	Rhode Island	91.3%	51	New Mexico	66.8%
2	New Hampshire	90.7	50	District of Columbia	71.9
3	Massachusetts	89.4	49	Nevada	75.2
4	Connecticut	89.3	48	Arizona	75.9
5	Maine	89.2	47	Arkansas	79.0
6	Vermont	87.9	46	Texas	79.3
7	Iowa	87.7	45	Alaska	79.4
8	Georgia	87.3	42	Utah	80.5
9	Missouri	87.1	42	Oklahoma	80.5
10	Maryland	87.0	42	Idaho	80.5

See table on page 58

Low Birthweight Babies

In more than half the states, the percent of babies born at low birthweight still exceeds the national rate of 7.6 percent. Black babies are twice as likely to weigh less than 5 ½ pounds at births than White or Hispanic babies.

Best States			Worst States		
Rank		Percent	Rank		Percent
1	Oregon	5.4%	51	District of Columbia	13.1%
2	Vermont	5.7	50	Mississippi	10.3
3	Alaska	5.8	49	Louisiana	10.0
3	Washington	5.8	48	South Carolina	9.8
5	South Dakota	5.9	47	Alabama	9.3
6	Maine	6.0	46	Tennessee	9.2
7	California	6.1	45	Maryland	9.0
7	Minnesota	6.1	44	North Carolina	8.9
9	Idaho	6.2	43	Georgia	8.7
9	Iowa	6.2	41	Delaware	8.6
9	New Hampshire	6.2	41	Arkansas	8.6
9	North Dakota	6.2			

See table on page 60

Births to Unmarried Parents

One-third of all babies born in the United States have parents who are not married. Two-thirds of Black babies and one-fourth of White babies have parents who are not married.

Best States			Worst States		
Rank		Percent	Rank		Percent
1	Utah	16.7%	51	District of Columbia	61.7%
2	Idaho	21.6	50	Mississippi	45.9
3	New Hampshire	24.2	49	New Mexico	45.1
4	Colorado	25.4	48	Louisiana	44.8
5	Minnesota	25.9	47	South Carolina	39.0
5	Nebraska	25.9	45	Arizona	38.8
7	Massachusetts	26.5	45	Delaware	38.8
8	Iowa	27.5	44	Florida	37.5
8	North Dakota	27.5	42	Georgia	36.6
10	Washington	28.1	42	New York	36.6

See table on page 59

Teen Birth Rates

Mississippi has a teen birth rate three times that of New Hampshire.

Best States			Worst States		
Rank		Rate	Rank		Rate
1	New Hampshire	24.0	51	District of Columbia	83.5
2	Vermont	25.7	50	Mississippi	72.5
3	North Dakota	27.7	49	Texas	70.1
4	Massachusetts	28.7	48	Arizona	69.6
5	Maine	29.8	47	Arkansas	68.1
6	Minnesota	30.0	46	New Mexico	67.4
7	New Jersey	32.8	45	Georgia	65.1
8	Connecticut	33.3	44	Nevada	64.1
9	Montana	35.1	42	Alabama	62.8
10	Wisconsin	35.7	42	Louisiana	62.8

See table on page 59

Infant Mortality

Sadly, in America 7.1 babies out of each 1,000 born die before their first birthday. Infant mortality rates in the states range from 4.8 to 10.2. In the District of Columbia the rate is 15.0, which is comparable to some third world nations.

Best States			Worst States		
Rank		Rate	Rank		Rate
1	Maine	4.8	51	District of Columbia	15.0
1	Utah	4.8	50	South Carolina	10.2
3	Washington	5.0	49	Mississippi	10.1
4	Massachusetts	5.2	48	Alabama	9.8
5	California	5.4	47	Louisiana	9.2
6	Alaska	5.7	46	North Carolina	9.1
6	Iowa	5.7	45	South Dakota	8.9
6	Rhode Island	5.7	43	Illinois	8.5
9	New Hampshire	5.8	43	Oklahoma	8.5
9	Oregon	5.8	42	Maryland	8.4
9	Vermont	5.8			

See table on page 61

Two-year-olds Who Are Fully Immunized

In nine states and the District of Columbia, 30 percent or more of two-year-olds are not fully immunized against preventable diseases.

Best States			Worst States		
Rank		Percent	Rank		Percent
1	North Carolina	82.8%	51	Texas	63.5%
2	Iowa	82.5	50	New Mexico	64.5
3	Minnesota	82.4	49	District of Columbia	66.2
4	Connecticut	81.6	48	Arkansas	67.1
5	Massachusetts	81.4	47	Arizona	67.2
6	Rhode Island	80.5	46	Utah	68.2
7	North Dakota	80.3	45	Oklahoma	68.3
8	New Hampshire	78.9	44	Ohio	68.9
9	South Carolina	78.5	43	Nevada	69.1
10	Wyoming	78.2	42	Delaware	70.0

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There are over 72 million children in the U.S., including 23 million preschoolers and 49 million school-age children.

Number of Children, 2000[1]

	Total under age 18	Under age 6 (preschool)	Ages 6-17 (school age)
Alabama	1,123,422	356,676	766,746
Alaska	190,717	57,620	133,097
Arizona	1,366,947	459,141	907,806
Arkansas	680,369	217,545	462,824
California	9,249,829	3,018,386	6,231,443
Colorado	1,100,795	357,202	743,593
Connecticut	841,688	270,187	571,501
Delaware	194,587	62,122	132,465
District of Columbia	114,992	39,326	75,666
Florida	3,646,340	1,142,293	2,504,047
Georgia	2,169,234	714,090	1,455,144
Hawaii	295,767	94,446	201,321
Idaho	369,030	116,942	252,088
Illinois	3,245,451	1,059,514	2,185,937
Indiana	1,574,396	508,845	1,065,551
Iowa	733,638	227,062	506,576
Kansas	712,993	226,862	486,131
Kentucky	994,818	320,380	674,438
Louisiana	1,219,799	381,826	837,973
Maine	301,238	85,915	215,323
Maryland	1,356,172	427,939	928,233
Massachusetts	1,500,064	480,422	1,019,642
Michigan	2,595,767	814,505	1,781,262
Minnesota	1,286,894	397,581	889,313
Mississippi	775,187	246,122	529,065
Missouri	1,427,692	445,566	982,126
Montana	230,062	66,452	163,610
Nebraska	450,242	141,081	309,161
Nevada	511,799	175,408	336,391
New Hampshire	309,562	92,378	217,184
New Jersey	2,087,558	681,609	1,405,949
New Mexico	508,574	157,439	351,135
New York	4,690,107	1,500,961	3,189,146
North Carolina	1,964,047	647,879	1,316,168
North Dakota	160,849	47,613	113,236
Ohio	2,888,339	911,072	1,977,267
Oklahoma	892,360	283,208	609,152
Oregon	846,526	268,083	578,443
Pennsylvania	2,922,221	884,030	2,038,191
Rhode Island	247,822	77,648	170,174
South Carolina	1,009,641	318,543	691,098
South Dakota	202,649	61,352	141,297
Tennessee	1,398,521	451,520	947,001
Texas	5,886,759	1,948,297	3,938,462
Utah	718,698	248,430	470,268
Vermont	147,523	41,709	105,814
Virginia	1,738,262	557,736	1,180,526
Washington	1,513,843	475,456	1,038,387
West Virginia	402,393	122,919	279,474
Wisconsin	1,368,756	414,337	954,419
Wyoming	128,873	37,226	91,647
United States	**72,293,812**	**23,140,901**	**49,152,911**

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In the richest nation on earth, there are poor children in every state. The youngest children are the most likely to be poor nearly everywhere.

Family Income and Poverty

	Child Poverty, 1999-2000[1]						Unemployment Rate (percent unemployed)	
	Under Age 18			Under Age 6				
	Number poor	Percent poor	Rank[2]	Number poor	Percent poor	Rank[2]	2000[3]	2001[4]
Alabama	235,195	21.4%	42	90,808	25.6%	45	4.6%	5.3%
Alaska	23,337	12.7	15	8,628	16.4	19	6.6	6.3
Arizona	298,525	22.5	45	106,945	25.0	43	3.9	4.7
Arkansas	171,163	25.5	46	64,173	31.2	50	4.4	5.1
California	1,798,162	19.9	39	651,788	21.9	37	4.9	5.3
Colorado	105,875	9.8	3	39,431	11.0	2	2.7	3.7
Connecticut	93,971	11.3	7	30,925	11.9	6	2.3	3.3
Delaware	21,915	11.6	9	9,622	16.5	21	4.0	3.5
District of Columbia	35,095	30.9	51	12,595	32.1	51	5.8	6.5
Florida	703,297	19.8	38	231,567	21.0	36	3.6	4.8
Georgia	392,504	18.5	33	136,538	19.3	32	3.7	4.0
Hawaii	35,254	12.1	11	9,859	11.0	2	4.3	4.6
Idaho	47,465	13.7	18	17,114	16.1	17	4.9	5.0
Illinois	509,689	16.0	28	188,304	18.4	30	4.4	5.4
Indiana	225,305	14.6	23	82,008	16.5	21	3.2	4.4
Iowa	99,155	13.9	20	33,541	15.8	16	2.6	3.3
Kansas	78,138	11.1	6	33,954	15.7	15	3.7	4.3
Kentucky	210,909	21.8	44	72,919	23.7	41	4.1	5.5
Louisiana	330,967	27.6	49	114,333	30.8	49	5.5	6.0
Maine	35,341	11.9	10	11,581	13.9	7	3.5	4.0
Maryland	176,637	13.5	16	64,383	15.5	14	3.9	4.1
Massachusetts	210,235	14.2	21	69,789	14.8	11	2.6	3.7
Michigan	367,235	14.5	22	142,093	18.0	28	3.6	5.3
Minnesota	116,225	9.3	2	45,635	11.5	5	3.3	3.7
Mississippi	194,241	25.8	48	66,553	28.8	47	5.7	5.5
Missouri	223,088	15.9	27	81,293	18.2	29	3.5	4.7
Montana	42,623	19.0	34	12,075	19.7	33	4.9	4.6
Nebraska	49,675	11.4	8	18,976	14.0	8	3.0	3.1
Nevada	62,412	12.6	14	23,582	14.6	9	4.1	5.3
New Hampshire	21,083	7.1	1	7,842	8.6	1	2.8	3.5
New Jersey	220,409	10.8	5	76,729	11.4	4	3.8	4.2
New Mexico	125,657	25.5	46	41,872	27.4	46	4.9	4.8
New York	902,469	19.6	37	302,182	20.4	35	4.6	4.9
North Carolina	365,653	19.0	34	115,243	18.7	31	3.6	5.5
North Dakota	24,084	15.1	24	7,374	16.4	19	3.0	2.8
Ohio	454,561	16.0	28	153,620	17.4	26	4.1	4.3
Oklahoma	168,244	19.4	36	66,222	24.8	42	3.0	3.8
Oregon	147,091	18.0	32	61,261	23.5	40	4.9	6.3
Pennsylvania	436,895	15.2	26	153,781	17.9	27	4.2	4.7
Rhode Island	42,589	17.2	31	13,073	17.3	24	4.1	4.7
South Carolina	199,222	20.0	40	60,498	20.0	34	3.9	5.4
South Dakota	27,670	13.8	19	10,222	17.3	24	2.3	3.3
Tennessee	278,806	20.3	41	110,818	25.0	43	3.9	4.5
Texas	1,251,606	21.6	43	435,223	23.2	39	4.2	4.9
Utah	75,189	10.7	4	35,973	15.0	13	3.2	4.4
Vermont	17,704	12.4	13	6,637	16.1	17	2.9	3.6
Virginia	230,765	13.5	16	80,671	14.6	9	2.2	3.5
Washington	251,270	16.7	30	100,482	21.9	37	5.2	6.4
West Virginia	109,821	27.7	50	35,514	30.5	48	5.5	4.9
Wisconsin	159,913	12.1	11	59,600	14.9	12	3.5	4.6
Wyoming	19,056	15.1	24	6,109	17.2	23	3.9	3.9
United States	**12,423,390**	**17.5%**		**4,411,958**	**19.6%**		**4.0%**	**4.8%**

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No state pays enough cash assistance benefits for a family to live on. Even where a state's rents are lowest, a modest two-bedroom apartment costs a minimum-wage worker more than 30 percent of income.

Family Income and Poverty (continued)

Maximum TANF benefits for a three-person family, July 2001[1]			Maximum amount a three-person family can earn and be eligible for TANF, January 2000[2]			Fair market rent for a two-bedroom apartment in lowest-cost metropolitan area, 2002[3]			
Amount	Percent of poverty level	Rank[4]	Amount	Percent of poverty level	Rank[4]	Amount	Minimum wage	Rent as percent of minimum wage	Rank[4]
$164	13.5%	51	$ 205	17.7%	51	$321	$5.15	37.4%	3
923	60.6	1	1,641	113.4	3	613	5.65	65.1	46
347	28.5	33	586	50.7	40	453	5.15	52.8	41
204	16.7	46	697	60.3	31	353	5.15	41.1	10
645	52.9	4	1,477	127.7	1	407	6.25	39.1	6
356	29.2	32	511	44.2	44	441	5.15	51.4	38
636	52.2	5	1,157	100.0	7	579	6.40	54.3	43
338	27.7	36	958	82.8	20	565	6.15	55.1	44
379	31.1	28	858	74.2	22	804	6.15	78.4	50
303	24.9	37	806	69.7	25	446	5.15	52.0	40
280	23.0	42	514	44.4	43	371	5.15	43.2	19
570	40.6	12	1,363	102.4	6	714	5.25	81.6	51
293	24.0	38	625	54.0	38	337	5.15	39.3	7
377	30.9	29	1,131	97.8	10	369	5.15	43.0	17
288	23.6	41	378	32.7	48	351	5.15	40.9	9
426	34.9	23	1,065	92.1	13	372	5.15	43.3	21
429	35.2	22	762	65.9	28	399	5.15	46.5	29
262	21.5	44	646	55.9	35	325	5.15	37.9	4
240	19.7	45	310	26.8	50	326	5.15	38.0	5
461	37.8	16	1,103	95.4	11	407	5.15	47.4	34
439	36.0	21	642	55.5	36	422	5.15	49.2	37
618	50.7	6	1,045	90.3	14	480	6.75	42.7	15
459	37.6	18	774	66.9	27	401	5.15	46.7	31
532	43.6	11	1,400	121.0	2	380	5.15	44.3	23
170	13.9	50	458	39.6	45	368	5.15	42.9	16
292	24.0	38	382	33.0	47	308	5.15	35.9	1
494	40.5	13	824	71.2	24	400	5.15	46.6	30
364	29.9	31	669	57.8	34	419	5.15	48.8	36
348	28.5	33	438	37.9	46	590	5.15	68.7	47
600	49.2	7	1,200	103.7	5	629	5.15	73.3	49
424	34.8	24	848	73.3	23	602	5.15	70.1	48
389	31.9	26	1,028	88.9	15	385	5.15	44.9	25
577	47.3	8	1,157	100.0	7	412	5.15	48.0	35
272	22.3	43	750	64.8	29	371	5.15	43.2	19
477	39.1	14	1,014	87.7	16	405	5.15	47.2	33
373	30.6	30	996	86.1	18	356	5.15	41.5	11
292	24.0	38	704	60.9	30	314	5.15	36.6	2
460	37.7	17	616	53.3	39	467	6.50	43.1	18
421	34.5	25	806	69.7	25	377	5.15	43.9	22
554	45.4	9	1,278	110.5	4	541	6.15	52.8	41
203	16.7	46	678	58.6	32	381	5.15	44.4	24
469	38.5	15	628	54.3	37	445	5.15	51.8	39
185	15.2	49	949	82.0	21	363	5.15	42.3	13
201	16.5	48	317	27.4	49	364	5.15	42.4	14
451	37.0	20	1,002	86.6	17	404	5.15	47.1	32
669	54.9	3	979	84.6	19	610	6.25	58.6	45
389	31.9	26	1,157	100.0	7	385	5.15	44.9	25
546	44.8	10	1,092	94.4	12	446	6.72	39.8	8
453	37.2	19	547	47.3	41	361	5.15	42.1	12
673	55.2	2	673	58.2	33	385	5.15	44.9	25
340	27.9	35	540	46.7	42	393	5.15	45.8	28
$389	**31.9%**		**$806**	**69.7%**			**$5.15**		

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In 48 states the cost of child care for a four-year-old in an urban child care center is more than the cost of public college tuition.

Center-based Child Care Costs vs. Public College Tuition Costs, 2000

	Center-based child care costs for a 4-year-old[1]	Tuition at a 4-year public college[2]	College tuition as a percent of child care costs[3]
Alabama	$3,672	$2,833	77.2%
Alaska	6,019	2,855	47.4
Arizona	4,352	2,252	51.7
Arkansas	3,640	2,785	76.5
California	4,858	2,559	52.7
Colorado	5,096	2,775	54.5
Connecticut	6,405	4,435	69.2
Delaware	5,510	4,642	84.2
District of Columbia	—	2,070	—
Florida	4,255	2,244	52.7
Georgia	4,992	2,524	50.6
Hawaii	5,505	2,965	53.9
Idaho	4,814	2,458	51.1
Illinois	5,304	4,038	76.1
Indiana	4,732	3,646	77.0
Iowa	6,198	2,998	48.4
Kansas	4,889	2,439	49.9
Kentucky	4,368	2,723	62.3
Louisiana	4,160	2,430	58.4
Maine	5,790	4,122	71.2
Maryland	4,774	4,552	95.3
Massachusetts	8,121	4,105	50.5
Michigan	4,830	4,538	94.0
Minnesota	7,436	3,800	51.1
Mississippi	3,380	2,872	85.0
Missouri	4,784	3,701	77.4
Montana	4,680	3,011	64.3
Nebraska	4,680	2,930	62.6
Nevada	4,862	2,034	41.8
New Hampshire	6,520	6,083	93.3
New Jersey	5,252	5,255	100.1
New Mexico	4,801	2,340	48.7
New York	8,060	3,983	49.4
North Carolina	5,876	2,054	35.0
North Dakota	4,627	2,990	64.6
Ohio	5,672	4,495	79.2
Oklahoma	4,108	2,183	53.1
Oregon	5,580	3,582	64.2
Pennsylvania	6,188	5,610	90.7
Rhode Island	6,365	4,318	67.8
South Carolina	3,900	3,638	93.3
South Dakota	4,243	3,210	75.7
Tennessee	4,420	2,698	61.0
Texas	4,160	2,644	63.6
Utah	4,550	2,147	47.2
Vermont	5,980	6,913	115.6
Virginia	4,857	3,733	76.9
Washington	6,604	3,357	50.8
West Virginia	4,238	2,549	60.1
Wisconsin	6,104	3,313	54.3
Wyoming	4,056	2,416	59.6

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Many children and families still do not receive help paying for child care. Currently only one in seven children eligible for assistance through the CCDBG receives it.

Child Care and Development Block Grant (CCDBG)

CCDBG enrollment, 1999			Income cutoff for child care assistance		
Number of eligible children[1]	Average monthly enrollment[2]	Percent of eligible children served[3]	Annual income cutoff[4]	Percent of state median income[5]	Percent of poverty level[6]
233,300	24,500	10.5%	$18,048	45%	128%
46,700	6,260	13.4	44,328	92	313
283,800	36,590	12.9	22,908	58	162
180,600	11,250	6.2	19,601	60	139
1,732,500	226,750	13.1	33,852	73	239
226,300	23,790	10.5	18,044-25,668	36-52	128-181
187,700	9,790	5.2	45,805	75	324
50,700	5,920	11.7	27,768	52	196
31,500	1,040	3.3	27,921	59	197
705,300	58,630	8.3	20,820	50	147
485,200	38,170	7.9	24,278	56	172
81,200	7,110	8.8	46,035	94	325
68,200	7,560	11.1	20,472	53	145
676,000	92,030	13.6	24,243	50	171
299,800	20,230	6.7	19,848	44	140
199,200	15,720	7.9	19,428	45	137
172,800	11,570	6.7	25,680	58	181
170,200	26,220	15.4	22,208	57	157
219,700	38,980	17.7	29,040	75	205
60,900	8,890	14.6	34,303	85	242
259,900	22,070	8.5	22,463	40	159
301,700	40,200	13.3	27,312	50	193
545,100	101,890	18.7	26,064	54	184
297,400	17,200	5.8	38,169	75	270
185,500	17,870	9.6	27,999	79	198
305,600	58,390	19.1	17,784	41	126
60,800	6,430	10.6	20,820	57	147
115,000	12,140	10.6	25,260	56	179
97,000	5,900	6.1	33,576	75	237
71,600	6,790	9.5	26,376	52	186
350,500	34,000	9.7	28,300	50	200
126,900	16,610	13.1	28,300	84	200
880,900	164,200	18.6	28,644	61	202
411,400	67,100	16.3	32,628	75	231
37,700	4,450	11.8	29,340	74	207
577,300	58,440	10.1	25,680	55	181
191,100	30,820	16.1	29,040	78	205
188,500	20,490	10.9	25,680	56	181
533,900	82,750	15.5	28,300	61	200
42,500	6,390	15.0	31,230	60	221
231,000	17,840	7.7	17,350	42	123
46,200	3,680	8.0	22,113	56	156
346,000	63,090	18.2	24,324	60	172
1,161,700	96,640	8.3	21,225-34,272	53-85	150-242
130,400	13,260	10.2	23,928	56	169
33,400	4,980	14.9	31,032	71	219
348,100	27,120	7.8	21,228, 22,632, or 26,172	44, 47, or 55	150, 160, or 185
310,500	46,130	14.9	31,236	65	221
52,700	13,310	25.3	20,820	57	147
365,800	24,940	6.8	25,680	53	181
31,600	3,330	10.5	18,828	46	133

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The federal Head Start program serves only three out of five preschool-age poor children. Although all but eight states invest in prekindergarten, these programs typically reach only a small percentage of low-income children.

State Prekindergarten Programs and Head Start

	State-funded programs, 1998-99[1]					Federal Head Start enrollment, 2001[3]
	Type			State spending	Number of children served	
	Head Start	Other	None			
Alabama		x		$ 690,000	1,000	16,498
Alaska	x			5,489,951	725	1,586
Arizona		x		10,013,423	3,482	12,865
Arkansas		x		10,000,000	9,048	10,818
California		x		127,000,000	145,719	97,667
Colorado		x		21,640,000	8,350	9,826
Connecticut		x		39,000,000	5,000	7,207
	x			5,100,000	N/A	
Delaware	x			3,600,000	843	2,243
District of Columbia		x		14,591,000	3,381	3,343
	x			2,570,000	1,450	
Florida		x		97,000,328	29,639	34,657
	x			3,295,172	7,552	
Georgia		x		217,000,000	61,000	23,140
Hawaii		x		2,700,000	780	3,073
	x			387,387	229	
Idaho			x			2,890
Illinois		x		136,000,000	50,000	39,805
Indiana			x			14,256
Iowa		x		7,633,087	2,466	7,689
Kansas		x		3,000,000	1,350	7,897
	x			2,500,000	N/A	
Kentucky		x		39,700,000	15,433	16,419
Louisiana		x		6,650,000	3,200	21,969
Maine		x		1,300,000	654	3,958
	x			2,329,000	424	
Maryland		x		19,263,000	9,880	10,487
Massachusetts		x		78,500,000	18,100	13,004
	x			6,900,000	450	
Michigan		x		67,083,000	21,638	35,112
Minnesota		x		10,300,000	44,889	10,164
	x			18,750,000	3,135	
Mississippi			x			26,624
Missouri		x		N/A	N/A	17,718
Montana			x			2,971
Nebraska		x		500,000	275	4,982
Nevada		x[2]				2,694
New Hampshire	x			230,000	N/A	1,632
New Jersey		x		70,000,000	8,197	15,329
	x			1,400,000	500	
New Mexico		x		1,300,000	1,333	7,618
	x			5,000,000	1,300	
New York		x		67,000,000	18,906	48,952
	x			50,200,000	19,458	
North Carolina		x		N/A	N/A	18,991
North Dakota			x			2,287
Ohio		x		17,900,000	7,773	38,072
	x			92,562,977	22,072	
Oklahoma		x		36,500,708	16,678	13,228
	x			3,316,918	N/A	
Oregon	x			16,272,167	3,064	9,129
Pennsylvania		x		5,700,000	2,979	31,104
Rhode Island		x				3,150
	x			1,965,000	400	
South Carolina		x		22,356,688	16,000	12,184
South Dakota			x			2,925
Tennessee		x		3,100,000	600	16,344
Texas		x		235,000,000	123,859	67,572
Utah			x			5,403
Vermont		x		1,315,000	1,097	1,573
Virginia		x		23,500,000	5,811	13,612
Washington		x		28,897,592	8,098	11,106
	x			470,000	N/A	
West Virginia		x		6,232,702	5,656	7,590
Wisconsin		x		19,800,000	9,550	13,478
	x			4,950,000	1,187	
Wyoming			x			1,757
United States				**$1,675,455,100**	**724,610**	**804,598**

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Cosmetologists must attend as much as 2,000 hours of training before getting a license, but 30 states allow teachers in child care centers to work with children without any training in early childhood development.

Do States Require Early Childhood Training for Child Care Providers?[1]

Child care center teachers		Family child care home providers	
Pre-service	In-service	Pre-service	In-service
Yes	Yes	No	Yes
No	Yes	No	Yes
No	Yes	No	Yes
No	Yes	No	Yes
Yes	No	Yes	No
No	Yes	No	Yes
No	Yes	No	No
Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Yes	No	No	No
Yes	Yes	Yes	No
Yes	Yes	No	Yes
Yes	No	Yes	Yes
No	Yes	NA	NA
Yes	Yes	No	No
No	Yes	NA	NA
No	Yes	NA	NA
Yes	Yes	No	Yes
No	Yes	No	Yes
No	No	NA	NA
No	Yes	No	Yes
Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
No	No	No	No
Yes	Yes	No	Yes
No	Yes	NA	NA
No	Yes	No	Yes
Yes	No	No	No
No	Yes	No	Yes
Yes	Yes	No	Yes
Yes	Yes	No	Yes
Yes	Yes	NA	NA
No	Yes	No	Yes
No	Yes	No	Yes
No	Yes	No	Yes
No	Yes	No	Yes
No	Yes	NA	NA
No	Yes	No	Yes
No	Yes	Yes	Yes
No	Yes	No	Yes
Yes	Yes	No	Yes
No	Yes	No	No
No	Yes	NA	NA
No	Yes	No	Yes
Yes	Yes	No	Yes
Yes	Yes	NA	NA
Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
No	Yes	No	No
Yes	Yes	No	Yes
No	Yes	No	Yes

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9.2 million children, almost one in eight, do not have health insurance.

Health Insurance and Immunization

	Children without health insurance throughout the year, 1998-2000[1]			Medicaid enrollment, FY 1999[3]		Total CHIP enrollment, FY 2000[4]
	Estimated number	Percentage	Rank[2]	Total child enrollment	Children enrolled for the full year	
Alabama	140,000	11.8%	29	337,726	183,800	37,587
Alaska	32,000	15.9	41	56,671	11,412	13,413
Arizona	283,000	19.6	49	356,437	127,574	60,803
Arkansas	99,000	13.8	38	218,077	95,566	1,892
California	1,672,000	17.2	44	3,032,311	1,774,052	477,615
Colorado	158,000	13.6	36	165,167	63,180	34,889
Connecticut	61,000	6.9	5	217,468	142,056	18,804
Delaware	21,000	10.4	19	52,669	26,171	4,474
District of Columbia	17,000	13.6	36	68,879	43,416	2,264
Florida	655,000	17.0	43	1,009,733	386,673	227,463
Georgia	286,000	12.5	33	685,341	300,302	120,626
Hawaii	30,000	9.5	17	85,120	55,783	2,256
Idaho	66,000	16.9	42	52,790	11,551	12,449
Illinois	402,000	11.7	28	832,012	509,338	62,507
Indiana	192,000	11.5	27	377,965	215,252	44,373
Iowa	51,000	6.6	3	143,782	55,035	19,958
Kansas	78,000	10.4	19	132,690	51,560	26,306
Kentucky	111,000	10.6	23	292,741	139,254	55,593
Louisiana	248,000	19.2	48	400,191	189,639	49,995
Maine	26,000	8.3	13	78,283	44,648	22,742
Maryland	152,000	10.7	24	325,774	150,899	93,081
Massachusetts	122,000	7.7	9	435,059	294,272	113,034
Michigan	234,000	8.6	14	683,580	373,869	37,148
Minnesota	108,000	7.9	11	295,649	154,427	n/a
Mississippi	116,000	14.1	39	n/a	n/a	20,451
Missouri	101,000	6.7	4	465,100	284,016	73,825
Montana	46,000	18.9	47	44,842	16,632	8,317
Nebraska	37,000	7.8	10	114,320	65,000	11,400
Nevada	97,000	18.0	45	na	na	15,946
New Hampshire	23,000	7.1	6	60,794	32,441	4,272
New Jersey	211,000	9.6	18	406,392	225,954	89,034
New Mexico	115,000	21.4	50	233,384	114,860	6,106
New York	566,000	11.4	26	1,368,132	801,570	769,457
North Carolina	244,000	11.8	29	588,028	275,404	103,567
North Dakota	21,000	12.4	32	29,424	11,855	2,573
Ohio	267,000	8.7	15	716,463	345,790	111,436
Oklahoma	176,000	18.6	46	298,138	11,214	57,719
Oregon	113,000	12.6	34	219,200	76,678	37,092
Pennsylvania	195,000	6.3	2	798,924	477,466	119,710
Rhode Island	12,000	4.5	1	65,622	30,532	11,539
South Carolina	145,000	13.5	35	353,244	221,715	59,853
South Dakota	24,000	11.2	25	50,641	23,109	5,888
Tennessee	117,000	7.9	11	644,138	454,961	14,861
Texas	1,428,000	23.0	51	1,508,168	1,014,371	130,519
Utah	80,000	10.4	19	112,683	36,949	25,294
Vermont	11,000	7.3	8	60,629	37,480	4,081
Virginia	227,000	12.3	31	358,361	177,562	37,681
Washington	150,000	9.4	16	506,442	287,982	2,616
West Virginia	45,000	10.5	22	182,134	70,629	21,659
Wisconsin	105,000	7.2	7	250,162	102,615	47,140
Wyoming	19,000	14.2	40	26,707	9,096	2,547
United States	**9.2 million**	**12.0%**		**20,139,737**		**3,333,879**

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About one in four two-year-olds is not fully immunized against preventable diseases.

Health Insurance and Immunization (continued)

CHIP spending in FY 2001 as a percentage of the FY 2002 allotment[1]	Name of CHIP Program (*Name used for both CHIP and Medicaid)	Percent of two-year-olds fully immunized, 2000[2] 4:3:1:3 series[3]	4:3:1:3:3 series[4]
89.9%	ALL Kids	80.9%	76.1%
387.0	Denali KidCare*	77.0	70.6
55.7	KidsCare	72.4	67.2
7.5	ARKids First*	72.0	67.1
59.3	Healthy Families	75.3	72.3
60.9	Child Health Plan	73.9	71.6
52.5	HUSKY*	84.6	81.6
26.8	DE Healthy Children	74.7	70.0
64.7	DC Healthy Families*	70.9	66.2
118.3	Florida KidCare*	73.6	71.7
75.4	PeachCare for Kids	81.1	77.7
32.8	S-CHIP	74.8	72.8
79.1	CHIP	73.7	70.7
33.3	KidCare*	75.4	71.2
136.7	Hoosier Healthwise*	76.3	72.0
108.4	HAWK-I	82.8	82.5
112.1	Health Wave	76.2	71.3
187.1	K-CHIP	80.6	77.0
66.4	LaCHIP*	74.7	71.8
142.7	Cub Care	83.3	76.0
286.1	Maryland Children's Health Program*	78.4	75.4
122.4	MassHealth*	85.2	81.4
40.4	MIChild	75.3	73.7
—	MinnesotaCare	86.3	82.4
142.0	Mississippi Health Benefits*	81.1	75.9
128.2	MC+	78.3	76.8
130.7	CHIP	76.6	71.1
66.7	Kids Connection*	78.7	75.5
54.5	Nevada Check Up	74.0	69.1
34.8	Healthy Kids Silver	83.2	78.9
82.3	New Jersey Family Care	75.9	71.2
25.9	New MexiKids*	68.2	64.5
170.5	Child Health Plus B	74.7	72.3
96.6	NC Health Choice	86.9	82.8
55.9	Healthy Steps	81.4	80.3
95.5	Healthy Start*	71.8	68.9
64.0	SoonerCare*	71.0	68.3
39.0	CHIP	79.1	74.7
89.5	CHIP	78.4	77.8
224.8	Rite Care*	82.3	80.5
107.7	Partners for Healthy Children*	80.3	78.5
99.5	CHIP*	77.6	73.6
29.9	TennCare*	80.9	76.8
90.3	TexCare Partnership*	68.5	63.5
94.1	CHIP*	76.7	68.2
65.7	Dr. Dynasaur	82.5	77.0
55.8	Children's Medical Security Insurance Plan	73.8	70.7
14.2	CHIP	77.2	72.5
115.6	WVCHIP	75.5	71.9
139.8	BadgerCare	79.8	74.2
53.2	Kid Care	79.0	78.2
86.9%		**76.2%**	**72.8%**

Notes and sources on page 69

One in six babies is born to a mother who did not receive early prenatal care. One in four Black and Hispanic babies is born to a mother who did not receive early prenatal care.

Prenatal Care, 1999

	Percent of babies born to mothers who received early prenatal care[1]							
	All races		White		Black		Hispanic[1]	
	Rate	Rank[2]	Rate	Rank[2]	Rate	Rank[2]	Rate	Rank[2]
Alabama	83.2%	30	88.9%	12	71.4%	37	60.5%	51
Alaska	79.4	45	82.2	41	83.6	3	79.6	12
Arizona	75.9	48	76.6	49	74.5	25	65.0	40
Arkansas	79.0	47	81.7	44	69.4	44	63.5	46
California	83.6	28	83.6	36	81.0	8	79.7	10
Colorado	81.7	35	82.0	43	75.4	22	66.0	39
Connecticut	89.3	4	90.6	6	81.0	8	78.3	14
Delaware	83.7	27	86.4	28	75.5	21	71.8	25
District of Columbia	71.9	50	82.7	39	67.1	47	64.2	44
Florida	83.9	25	87.1	21	73.6	30	81.3	7
Georgia	87.3	8	90.4	7	81.1	7	79.7	10
Hawaii	85.7	15	91.0	3	91.2	1	83.8	4
Idaho	80.5	42	80.7	47	73.7	29	64.8	41
Illinois	82.5	34	85.4	32	70.0	41	72.4	22
Indiana	80.6	41	82.2	41	67.3	46	64.4	42
Iowa	87.7	7	88.3	16	74.8	23	71.2	27
Kansas	85.8	14	86.7	26	76.9	13	68.1	38
Kentucky	86.6	11	87.4	20	78.3	11	71.2	27
Louisiana	82.9	32	89.7	8	73.2	31	85.6	2
Maine	89.2	5	89.5	9	83.0	5	84.4	3
Maryland	87.0	10	91.4	2	78.0	12	81.4	6
Massachusetts	89.4	3	90.8	5	80.0	10	79.0	13
Michigan	84.0	24	87.0	22	69.9	42	72.0	24
Minnesota	84.5	20	87.0	22	66.4	48	62.1	48
Mississippi	81.5	36	89.1	10	72.7	34	74.5	19
Missouri	87.1	9	89.0	11	76.4	15	77.5	16
Montana	83.8	26	85.8	30	85.7	2	76.4	17
Nebraska	84.4	21	85.4	32	73.8	28	68.8	32
Nevada	75.2	49	75.5	50	69.6	43	62.0	49
New Hampshire	90.7	2	91.0	3	72.9	33	80.6	8
New Jersey	81.3	37	85.1	34	64.8	49	69.9	31
New Mexico	66.8	51	68.1	51	62.6	51	64.4	42
New York	81.0	38	84.2	35	71.0	38	71.8	25
North Carolina	85.0	19	88.4	14	76.1	18	68.7	34
North Dakota	86.3	13	88.3	16	72.1	35	81.7	5
Ohio	86.6	11	88.4	14	76.3	17	77.9	15
Oklahoma	80.5	42	82.6	40	73.1	32	68.7	34
Oregon	80.9	39	81.2	46	76.0	19	68.6	36
Pennsylvania	85.2	17	87.6	19	71.6	36	73.9	21
Rhode Island	91.3	1	92.4	1	83.2	4	86.1	1
South Carolina	80.7	40	85.9	29	70.9	39	61.1	50
South Dakota	83.4	29	87.0	22	74.2	27	68.5	37
Tennessee	84.3	22	87.0	22	74.6	24	64.0	45
Texas	79.3	46	79.3	48	76.7	14	72.2	23
Utah	80.5	42	81.5	45	63.7	50	63.0	47
Vermont	87.9	6	88.0	18	81.6	6	80.6	8
Virginia	85.3	16	88.6	13	74.5	25	74.0	20
Washington	82.8	33	83.6	36	75.7	20	71.1	29
West Virginia	85.1	18	85.6	31	70.7	40	68.8	32
Wisconsin	84.1	23	86.6	27	69.1	45	70.6	30
Wyoming	83.0	31	83.4	38	76.4	15	74.8	18
United States	**83.2%**		**85.1%**		**74.1%**		**74.4%**	

Notes and sources on page 69

Although the birth rate among teens is higher than in any other industrialized nation, it has been declining in every state in recent years.

Births to Teens and to Unmarried Women, 1999

Teen birth rate[1]				Percent of births to unmarried women[2]			
1994		1999		1994		1999	
Rate	Rank[3]	Rate	Rank[3]	Rate	Rank[3]	Rate	Rank[3]
72.2	43	62.8	42	34.5%	38	33.3%	32
55.5	30	41.8	21	29.3	24	33.2	29
78.7	49	69.6	48	38.3	47	38.8	45
76.3	46	68.1	47	32.6	32	35.2	40
71.3	41	50.7	32	35.7	43	32.9	26
54.3	27	48.4	30	25.0	8	25.4	4
40.3	10	33.3	8	30.5	27	29.0	14
60.2	33	54.3	36	34.7	39	38.8	45
114.7	51	83.5	51	68.8	51	61.7	51
64.4	35	53.5	35	35.7	43	37.5	44
71.7	42	65.1	45	35.5	42	36.6	42
53.5	25	43.8	25	28.3	20	32.8	25
46.6	17	43.7	24	18.7	2	21.6	2
62.8	34	51.1	33	34.3	37	34.1	33
57.9	31	51.6	34	31.5	28	34.5	37
39.7	9	35.8	11	24.8	6	27.5	8
53.5	25	47.4	28	26.0	11	28.6	12
64.5	36	56.4	37	27.6	16	30.4	19
74.7	45	62.8	42	42.6	49	44.8	48
35.5	5	29.8	5	28.2	19	31.3	21
49.7	21	42.6	22	33.7	36	34.9	39
37.2	6	28.7	4	26.6	13	26.5	7
52.1	24	40.5	20	35.0	40	33.1	28
34.4	3	30.0	6	24.0	5	25.9	5
83.0	50	72.5	50	45.4	50	45.9	50
59.0	32	49.6	31	32.5	31	34.1	33
41.2	11	35.1	9	25.5	10	30.0	18
42.8	13	37.0	13	24.8	6	25.9	5
73.6	44	64.1	44	35.0	40	35.7	41
30.1	1	24.0	1	22.1	3	24.2	3
39.3	8	32.8	7	28.1	18	28.5	11
77.4	47	67.4	46	41.7	48	45.1	49
45.8	16	37.0	13	37.6	46	36.6	42
66.3	38	59.5	38	31.9	29	33.2	29
34.6	4	27.7	3	23.0	4	27.5	8
55.0	29	46.0	26	32.9	34	34.1	33
65.9	37	60.5	39	29.8	25	33.2	29
50.7	22	46.5	27	28.7	21	30.4	19
43.8	15	36.2	12	32.8	33	32.9	26
47.7	18	38.2	16	32.1	30	34.3	36
66.5	39	60.8	40	36.8	45	39.0	47
42.8	13	37.6	15	27.7	17	31.8	24
71.0	40	62.7	41	33.4	35	34.7	38
77.6	48	70.1	49	28.9	22	31.3	21
42.7	12	40.2	18	15.7	1	16.7	1
33.0	2	25.7	2	25.3	9	28.9	13
50.7	22	42.7	23	29.2	23	29.7	17
48.2	19	40.1	17	26.0	11	28.1	10
54.3	27	47.9	29	30.2	26	31.7	23
38.8	7	35.7	10	27.2	14	29.2	16
48.2	19	40.4	19	27.5	15	29.0	14
58.9		**49.6**		**32.6%**		**33.0%**	

Notes and sources on page 69

One in 13 babies is born at low birthweight. Black infants are twice as likely as White infants to be low birthweight.

Low Birthweight,[1] 1999

	All races		White		Black		Hispanic[2]	
	Rate	Rank[3]	Rate	Rank[4]	Rate	Rank[5]	Rate	Rank[6]
Alabama	9.3%	47	7.3%	43	13.6%	28	6.6%	25
Alaska	5.8	3	5.3	1	10.5	3	6.6	25
Arizona	6.9	17	6.6	20	12.1	12	6.7	30
Arkansas	8.6	41	7.4	44	13.0	23	5.9	10
California	6.1	7	5.5	4	11.7	8	5.5	3
Colorado	8.3	39	8.0	50	13.8	33	8.2	41
Connecticut	7.6	23	6.8	28	13.1	24	9.1	43
Delaware	8.6	41	6.8	28	13.8	33	7.0	33
District of Columbia	13.1	51	6.4	15	16.1	43	6.1	14
Florida	8.2	36	6.9	34	12.2	13	6.4	21
Georgia	8.7	43	6.7	23	12.7	20	5.8	7
Hawaii	7.6	23	5.4	3	9.8	1	8.0	40
Idaho	6.2	9	6.1	12	—	—	6.0	12
Illinois	8.0	33	6.5	18	14.2	37	6.4	21
Indiana	7.9	30	7.2	40	12.9	21	6.5	24
Iowa	6.2	9	5.9	8	12.6	18	5.7	5
Kansas	7.1	18	6.7	23	12.2	13	6.2	17
Kentucky	8.2	36	7.6	46	14.0	36	6.3	20
Louisiana	10.0	49	6.9	34	14.5	40	6.2	17
Maine	5.0	6	6.0	11	—	—	—	—
Maryland	9.0	45	6.7	23	13.5	27	7.2	35
Massachusetts	7.1	18	6.6	20	10.9	5	8.2	41
Michigan	8.0	33	6.5	18	14.6	41	6.7	30
Minnesota	5.1	7	5.6	6	11.0	6	6.0	12
Mississippi	10.3	50	7.4	44	13.8	33	6.2	17
Missouri	7.7	26	6.7	23	13.7	30	5.8	7
Montana	6.8	15	6.8	28	—	—	—	—
Nebraska	6.7	13	6.4	15	12.9	21	6.6	25
Nevada	7.6	23	7.0	38	12.4	17	6.1	14
New Hampshire	6.2	9	6.2	13	—	—	—	—
New Jersey	8.2	36	6.9	34	13.4	25	7.2	35
New Mexico	7.7	26	7.6	46	12.3	15	7.6	38
New York	7.8	28	6.8	28	11.7	8	7.6	38
North Carolina	8.9	44	7.2	40	13.7	30	6.4	21
North Dakota	5.2	9	6.2	13	—	—	—	—
Ohio	7.9	30	6.9	34	13.7	30	7.5	37
Oklahoma	7.4	21	7.0	38	11.9	10	5.9	10
Oregon	5.4	1	5.3	1	10.7	4	5.2	1
Pennsylvania	7.9	30	6.8	28	14.3	39	9.1	43
Rhode Island	7.3	20	6.8	28	11.3	7	7.1	34
South Carolina	9.8	48	7.2	40	14.7	42	5.5	3
South Dakota	5.9	5	5.9	8	—	—	—	—
Tennessee	9.2	46	7.9	48	14.2	37	6.6	25
Texas	7.4	21	6.6	20	12.6	18	6.6	25
Utah	6.8	15	6.7	23	13.6	28	6.7	30
Vermont	5.7	2	5.7	7	—	—	—	—
Virginia	7.8	28	6.4	15	12.0	11	5.8	7
Washington	5.8	3	5.5	4	10.4	2	5.3	2
West Virginia	8.0	33	7.9	48	12.3	15	—	—
Wisconsin	6.7	13	5.9	8	13.4	25	6.1	14
Wyoming	8.4	40	8.1	51	—	—	5.7	5
United States	**7.6%**		**6.6%**		**13.1%**		**6.4%**	

Notes and sources on page 69

Black babies are between two and three times as likely as White babies to die before their first birthday.

Infant Mortality,[1] 1999

All races		White		Black	
Rate	Rank[2]	Rate	Rank[2]	Rate	Rank[2]
9.8	48	6.9	42	16.0	21
5.7	6	4.7	2	—	—
6.8	22	6.2	32	19.1	33
8.0	37	7.0	44	12.0	4
5.4	5	5.0	7	12.9	7
6.7	17	6.3	33	16.2	23
6.1	12	5.7	18	10.6	2
7.4	31	3.9	1	18.0	29
15.0	51	—	—	19.0	32
7.4	31	5.6	16	13.6	9
8.2	40	5.4	12	13.8	10
7.0	27	—	—	—	—
6.7	17	6.6	36	—	—
8.5	43	6.3	33	18.4	30
8.0	37	7.0	44	17.0	26
5.7	6	5.3	11	—	—
7.3	28	6.8	39	14.4	14
7.6	34	7.1	46	12.7	6
9.2	47	5.9	26	14.2	12
4.8	1	4.7	2	—	—
8.4	42	5.1	9	14.6	15
5.2	4	4.8	5	9.8	1
8.1	39	6.0	30	17.9	28
6.2	13	5.4	12	15.4	18
10.1	49	6.8	39	14.2	12
7.8	36	5.8	22	18.9	31
6.7	17	5.9	26	—	—
6.8	22	5.9	26	—	—
6.6	16	6.1	31	—	—
5.8	9	5.7	18	—	—
6.7	17	5.2	10	14.1	11
6.9	25	6.5	35	—	—
6.4	15	5.5	14	10.6	2
9.1	46	6.9	42	15.5	19
6.8	22	5.8	22	—	—
8.2	40	6.6	36	17.6	27
8.5	43	8.0	49	15.6	20
5.8	9	5.7	18	—	—
7.3	28	5.8	22	16.8	24
5.7	6	5.0	7	—	—
10.2	50	6.7	38	16.9	25
8.9	45	7.7	48	—	—
7.7	35	5.7	18	15.2	17
6.2	13	5.5	14	12.5	5
4.8	1	4.8	5	—	—
5.8	9	5.9	26	—	—
7.3	28	5.6	16	13.0	8
5.0	3	4.7	2	15.0	16
7.4	31	7.3	47	—	—
6.7	17	5.8	22	16.0	21
6.9	25	6.8	39	—	—
7.1		**5.8**		**14.6**	

Notes and sources on page 69

There were more than 800,000 children abused and neglected in 1999.

Child Abuse and Neglect, 1999

			Percent by race[3]				
	Number[1]	Rate[2]	Black	American Indian, Alaska Native	Asian/ Pacific Islander	White	Other and unknown
Alabama	13,773	12.9	38.0%	0.2%	0.2%	60.0%	1.6%
Alaska	6,032	30.7	6.5	42.5	2.4	37.8	10.8
Arizona	9,205	6.9	9.2	5.7	1.0	78.3	5.9
Arkansas	7,564	11.5	19.1	0.2	0.1	56.6	23.9
California	130,510	14.6	18.0	1.0	4.0	33.0	44.0
Colorado	6,989	6.6	8.4	1.3	0.8	62.8	26.8
Connecticut	14,514	17.5	23.1	0.0	0.8	37.8	38.4
Delaware	2,111	11.6	45.2	0.1	0.5	53.1	1.0
District of Columbia	2,308	24.2	63.0	0.0	1.0	1.6	34.4
Florida	67,530	18.9	31.9	0.1	0.4	66.6	1.0
Georgia	26,888	13.1	47.4	0.1	0.4	45.9	6.2
Hawaii	2,669	9.2	2.5	0.9	61.9	12.1	22.6
Idaho	2,928	8.4	0.4	1.6	0.1	55.7	42.2
Illinois	33,125	10.4	39.1	0.0	0.4	48.6	11.9
Indiana	21,608	14.1	17.6	1.4	0.2	71.3	9.4
Iowa	9,763	13.6	8.0	0.9	0.7	74.2	16.2
Kansas	8,452	12.1	14.3	0.7	0.1	76.0	8.8
Kentucky	18,650	19.3	13.9	0.1	0.2	78.3	7.5
Louisiana	12,614	10.6	51.9	0.1	0.4	46.6	0.9
Maine	4,154	14.3	0.6	0.5	0.2	97.4	1.3
Maryland	15,451	11.8	n/r	n/r	n/r	n/r	n/r
Massachusetts	29,633	20.2	n/r	n/r	n/r	n/r	n/r
Michigan	24,505	9.6	40.7	0.7	0.4	55.8	2.4
Minnesota	11,113	8.7	26.3	9.4	3.8	58.7	1.8
Mississippi	6,523	8.7	52.8	0.2	0.5	46.3	0.2
Missouri	9,079	6.5	26.0	0.2	0.3	72.0	1.4
Montana	3,414	15.3	0.8	24.9	0.3	57.1	16.8
Nebraska	3,474	7.8	12.4	4.6	0.8	66.1	16.1
Nevada	8,238	16.8	20.2	1.3	1.0	65.3	12.1
New Hampshire	926	3.0	n/r	n/r	n/r	n/r	n/r
New Jersey	9,222	4.6	47.2	0.3	0.7	33.6	18.2
New Mexico	3,730	7.5	3.7	8.6	0.7	75.7	11.2
New York	64,045	14.4	31.0	0.2	0.1	38.0	30.7
North Carolina	36,976	19.1	37.9	2.4	1.1	57.1	1.5
North Dakota	1,284	8.0	3.5	26.2	0.2	68.8	1.2
Ohio	53,311	18.7	30.7	0.3	0.1	61.0	8.0
Oklahoma	16,210	18.4	13.5	14.4	0.5	69.1	2.6
Oregon	11,241	13.6	4.9	2.3	1.2	56.5	35.2
Pennsylvania	5,076	1.8	n/r	n/r	n/r	n/r	n/r
Rhode Island	3,485	14.5	16.3	1.0	2.1	72.6	8.0
South Carolina	9,580	10.0	45.8	0.3	0.6	52.5	0.7
South Dakota	2,561	12.9	n/r	n/r	n/r	n/r	n/r
Tennessee	10,611	7.9	31.6	0.0	0.3	62.5	5.6
Texas	39,488	6.9	24.5	0.3	0.7	73.2	1.4
Utah	8,660	12.2	1.9	2.0	1.2	49.7	45.3
Vermont	1,080	7.8	0.6	0.1	0.6	97.9	0.8
Virginia	8,199	4.9	39.3	0.1	1.1	51.6	7.9
Washington	8,039	5.4	9.9	8.6	2.4	71.0	8.0
West Virginia	8,609	21.3	5.1	0.1	0.1	84.0	10.7
Wisconsin	9,791	7.3	30.0	3.0	2.0	58.5	6.5
Wyoming	1,221	9.6	1.8	5.7	0.3	75.9	16.2
United States	**826,162**	**11.8**	**26.4%**	**1.8%**	**1.4%**	**54.3%**	**16.2%**

Notes and sources on page 69

Nationally, there was a record number of children in foster care in 1999. Children adopted from foster care increased by 78 percent. 2.4 million grandparents were raising their grandchildren in 2000.

Foster Care, Adoption, and Kinship Care

Children in foster care[1]		Adoptions from foster care[2]		Grandparents responsible for raising grandchildren[3]		
1998	1999	1995	1999	Total	Number poor	Percent poor
5,198	5,511	128	153	50,159	10,272	20.5%
n/r	n/r	103	136	5,052	869	17.2
5,608	7,034	215	760	49,274	7,917	16.1
3,138	2,919	84	278	32,286	8,512	26.4
112,767	117,937	3,094	6,251	289,546	46,218	16.0
7,951	7,639	338	713	24,473	2,305	9.4
6,683	6,707	198	403	20,291	1,457	7.2
1,480	1,193	38	33	8,524	—	—
3,397	3,466	86	166	8,092	1,670	20.6
26,320	34,292	904	1,355	127,095	23,330	18.4
9,937	11,991	383	1,098	85,208	18,799	22.1
2,441	2,203	42	281	11,605	688	5.9
963	959	46	107	9,577	930	9.7
48,737	40,270	1,759	7,028	103,112	16,582	16.1
5,070	8,933	520	759	42,324	8,037	19.0
4,920	4,854	227	764	15,568	1,731	11.1
8,488	6,774	333	566	18,848	1,733	9.2
n/r	5,698	197	359	39,386	8,880	22.5
6,301	5,581	292	356	65,161	16,259	25.0
3,595	3,154	85	202	6,017	—	—
12,890	13,455	324	583	51,398	7,158	13.9
n/r	11,169	1,073	922	31,078	4,092	13.2
n/r	n/r	1,717	2,446	66,350	7,903	11.9
8,521	8,996	232	540	18,885	3,890	20.6
3,359	3,196	109	237	39,355	10,158	25.8
12,495	12,577	538	847	52,575	7,499	14.3
1,991	2,156	104	186	6,332	1,423	22.5
n/r	5,532	208	197	9,135	1,683	18.4
n/r	n/r	155	210	18,856	—	—
n/r	1,367	51	63	5,988	—	—
9,182	9,494	616	729	58,906	11,492	19.5
821	1,941	141	258	20,449	3,517	17.2
53,555	51,159	4,579	4,719	139,287	32,611	23.4
11,314	11,339	289	949	86,482	17,959	20.8
1,170	1,143	42	145	4,097	849	20.7
n/r	20,078	1,202	1,868	83,424	15,111	18.1
7,233	8,173	226	822	31,875	7,858	24.7
7,266	7,371	427	765	15,029	1,622	10.8
23,070	22,690	1,018	1,451	84,081	17,381	20.7
2,844	2,621	216	292	4,744	—	—
4,644	4,645	231	456	53,703	14,389	26.8
n/r	1,101	42	84	2,353	—	—
n/r	10,796	458	382	46,060	9,917	21.5
15,182	16,326	804	2,030	243,993	62,075	25.4
2,468	2,273	283	369	9,191	—	—
1,316	1,445	62	139	2,960	—	—
7,213	7,264	320	326	62,994	9,923	15.8
8,872	8,688	645	1,040	35,806	4,613	12.9
3,082	3,169	139	312	20,227	6,354	31.4
10,076	9,637	360	642	30,076	2,531	8.4
883	852	10	44	3,190	414	13.0
		25,693	**45,821**	**2,350,477**	**441,850**	**18.8%**

Notes and sources on page 70

Not a single state has shown a majority of the fourth graders reading and doing math proficiently.

Public School Education

	Title I participants, 1998-99[1]	Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) participants, 1998-99[2]	Percentage of fourth graders reading below proficient level, 1998[3]	Percentage of fourth graders below proficient level in math, 2000[4]
Alabama	265,708	99,813	76%	86%
Alaska	25,435	17,712	N/A	N/A
Arizona	236,081	88,598	78	83
Arkansas	165,714	59,110	77	87
California	2,225,455	623,651	80	85
Colorado	90,188	75,134	66	N/A
Connecticut	78,928	76,740	54	68
Delaware	18,184	16,233	75	N/A
District of Columbia	60,221	8,162	90	94
Florida	718,367	345,171	77	N/A
Georgia	389,090	155,754	76	82
Hawaii	77,486	20,551	73	86
Idaho	59,027	27,553	N/A	79
Illinois	457,431	283,698	N/A	79
Indiana	114,287	146,559	N/A	69
Iowa	54,742	70,958	65	72
Kansas	79,430	58,425	66	70
Kentucky	293,440	87,973	71	83
Louisiana	407,614	95,245	81	86
Maine	26,097	34,294	64	75
Maryland	133,720	111,688	71	78
Massachusetts	224,485	168,964	63	67
Michigan	498,073	208,403	72	71
Minnesota	147,269	106,194	64	66
Mississippi	272,076	61,778	82	91
Missouri	196,852	131,565	71	77
Montana	35,418	18,797	63	75
Nebraska	45,671	43,400	N/A	76
Nevada	51,044	33,319	79	84
New Hampshire	14,676	27,502	62	N/A
New Jersey	202,218	210,114	N/A	N/A
New Mexico	107,330	52,113	78	88
New York	736,520	432,119	71	78
North Carolina	313,519	165,333	72	72
North Dakota	19,424	13,181	N/A	75
Ohio	371,289	230,155	N/A	74
Oklahoma	215,624	80,289	70	84
Oregon	106,925	69,919	72	77
Pennsylvania	374,002	226,378	N/A	N/A
Rhode Island	23,730	27,911	68	77
South Carolina	214,287	99,033	78	82
South Dakota	21,434	15,702	N/A	N/A
Tennessee	258,834	128,273	75	82
Texas	1,898,326	486,749	71	73
Utah	63,376	55,252	72	76
Vermont	16,849	12,709	N/A	71
Virginia	124,391	153,716	70	75
Washington	190,061	114,144	71	N/A
West Virginia	93,016	49,934	71	82
Wisconsin	161,332	116,328	66	N/A
Wyoming	14,638	13,333	70	75
United States	**12,989,334**	**6,055,629**	**71%**	**75%**

Notes and sources on page 70

States spend on average three times more per prisoner than per public school pupil.

Public School Education

Pupil/ teacher ratio, 1998[1]	High school completion rate, 1997-99[2]	Expenditures per pupil, 1997-98[3]	Expenditures per prisoner, 1997[4]	Ratio of per prisoner expenditures to per pupil expenditures[5]
15.7	83.1%	$4,849	$ 7,600	1.6
16.7	90.8	8,271	31,953	3.9
20.0	75.0	4,595	16,884	3.7
16.2	82.9	4,708	14,964	3.2
21.0	81.5	5,644	20,654	3.7
17.7	83.3	5,656	14,652	2.6
14.0	90.1	8,904	21,677	2.4
16.0	89.1	7,420	16,378	2.2
13.9	87.2	8,393	—	—
18.4	84.8	5,552	17,988	3.2
15.8	83.7	5,647	15,925	2.8
17.7	90.7	5,858	18,964	3.2
18.2	85.5	4,721	21,269	4.5
16.5	86.2	6,242	18,032	2.9
17.0	88.6	6,318	19,664	3.1
15.2	88.2	5,998	21,291	3.5
14.8	91.6	5,727	18,490	3.2
16.1	86.6	5,213	11,752	2.3
16.6	82.1	5,188	8,705	1.7
13.2	92.9	6,742	30,656	4.5
16.9	90.1	7,034	18,334	2.6
13.8	90.1	7,778	34,055	4.4
18.5	90.1	7,050	23,956	3.4
16.9	90.4	6,388	33,677	5.3
16.1	82.1	4,288	10,783	2.5
14.7	91.6	5,565	11,972	2.2
15.7	91.0	5,724	14,226	2.5
14.3	91.5	5,958	15,964	2.7
18.9	74.5	5,295	14,335	2.7
15.4	87.3	6,156	21,967	3.6
13.8	90.2	9,643	21,326	2.2
16.5	82.7	5,005	28,400	5.7
14.6	85.2	8,852	22,845	2.6
15.8	86.1	5,257	21,880	4.2
14.4	93.6	5,056	20,863	4.1
16.2	89.3	6,198	17,572	2.8
15.4	85.4	5,033	8,845	1.8
20.0	78.5	6,419	24,527	3.8
16.4	87.6	7,209	25,832	3.6
13.9	86.7	7,928	31,874	4.0
15.2	86.9	5,320	16,340	3.1
14.3	91.5	4,669	12,869	2.8
15.3	89.5	4,937	17,664	3.6
15.2	79.2	5,444	13,283	2.4
22.4	89.7	3,969	27,533	6.9
12.8	95.3	7,075	29,723	4.2
14.2	87.0	6,067	20,288	3.3
20.1	87.0	6,040	26,481	4.4
14.2	89.2	6,323	23,227	3.7
14.4	90.6	7,123	22,223	3.1
14.2	87.8	6,218	17,021	2.7
16.5	**85.5%**	**$6,189**	**$18,428**	**3.0**

Notes and sources on page 70

3,365 children and teens, or nine a day, were killed by firearms in 1999. Three out of five were victims of homicide, one-third were suicides.

Firearms Deaths of Children and Teens, by Manner, 1999[1]

	Total	Homicide	Suicide	Accident	Unknown intent
Alabama	83	44	26	10	3
Alaska	23	9	11	1	2
Arizona	86	55	30	0	1
Arkansas	40	15	20	3	2
California	402	320	66	8	8
Colorado	63	34	24	3	2
Connecticut	18	13	5	0	0
Delaware	5	1	3	1	0
District of Columbia	45	41	3	1	0
Florida	137	86	43	4	4
Georgia	117	67	41	5	4
Hawaii	0	0	0	0	0
Idaho	23	7	13	3	0
Illinois	228	182	37	7	2
Indiana	91	57	27	6	1
Iowa	23	2	17	2	2
Kansas	31	12	14	3	2
Kentucky	39	21	11	5	2
Louisiana	93	52	27	11	3
Maine	9	2	5	1	1
Maryland	98	78	16	0	4
Massachusetts	20	10	9	0	1
Michigan	116	66	40	7	3
Minnesota	45	15	27	3	0
Mississippi	72	37	17	11	7
Missouri	92	47	34	7	4
Montana	19	2	12	5	0
Nebraska	18	6	11	1	0
Nevada	26	15	10	1	0
New Hampshire	4	1	3	0	0
New Jersey	32	25	6	0	1
New Mexico	45	24	17	4	0
New York	132	101	25	5	1
North Carolina	93	54	33	4	2
North Dakota	9	2	6	0	1
Ohio	81	38	30	10	3
Oklahoma	62	28	21	12	1
Oregon	33	7	21	5	0
Pennsylvania	124	77	39	5	3
Rhode Island	8	6	2	0	0
South Carolina	51	22	20	8	1
South Dakota	14	1	9	3	1
Tennessee	85	47	22	12	4
Texas	254	141	89	21	3
Utah	21	3	17	0	1
Vermont	3	0	2	1	0
Virginia	86	48	35	3	0
Washington	62	20	34	6	2
West Virginia	19	8	10	0	1
Wisconsin	74	41	27	6	0
Wyoming	11	0	11	0	0
United States	**3,365**	**1,990**	**1,078**	**214**	**83**

Notes and sources on page 77

One in seven youths is a high school dropout and one in eight is unemployed. More than 1.7 million youths were arrested in 2000. Almost one in five of the youths incarcerated were in adult facilities.

Youth at Risk

Dropout rate, 1997-99[1]	Unemployment rate, 16-19-year-olds, 2000[2]	Number of juveniles arrested, 2000[3]	Number of juveniles in corrections facilities, 2000[4]	
			Juvenile facilities	Adult facilities
16.9%	18.6%	10,721	1,731	236
9.2	16.7	5,530	357	37
25.0	8.3	52,674	1,872	898
17.1	14.7	16,336	898	353
18.5	17.0	242,492	14,644	1,604
16.7	12.3	45,641	2,013	159
9.9	n/r	19,101	894	452
10.9	16.3	6,765	91	14
12.8	33.1	n/r	46	39
15.2	12.9	124,845	6,320	1,455
16.3	9.7	25,984	4,125	910
9.3	16.5	10,915	193	10
14.5	13.2	18,692	597	72
13.8	11.9	45,896	3,903	868
11.4	11.9	34,789	2,895	571
11.8	8.8	21,814	1,215	74
8.4	13.3	n/r	1,159	111
13.4	15.8	1,668	1,531	186
17.9	15.6	32,334	2,396	632
7.1	12.0	9,990	389	4
9.9	14.8	40,030	1,782	295
9.9	9.4	17,819	2,250	195
9.9	10.3	43,776	4,364	778
9.6	8.9	69,270	1,819	112
17.9	18.1	14,652	1,431	369
8.4	11.9	28,912	2,434	372
9.0	16.0	4,550	365	69
8.5	9.7	18,190	1,405	49
25.5	12.9	25,349	889	218
12.7	9.6	6,303	417	27
9.8	12.7	65,777	2,189	110
17.3	17.0	9,748	553	312
14.8	13.3	45,380	6,896	1,739
13.9	13.3	45,388	2,172	743
6.4	8.5	7,839	285	6
10.7	11.3	54,059	3,954	606
14.6	10.4	25,618	1,480	89
21.5	12.7	32,016	1,497	207
12.4	13.9	89,033	6,219	440
13.3	16.6	6,616	365	6
13.1	15.0	8,281	1,705	527
8.5	6.5	8,593	965	126
10.5	13.4	18,027	2,548	142
20.8	15.4	187,494	7,811	3,420
10.3	8.8	24,616	1,202	168
4.7	7.7	2,163	120	18
13.0	7.7	30,524	3,107	405
13.0	18.6	44,535	2,280	198
10.8	18.9	2,337	477	25
9.4	9.2	n/r	1,837	618
12.2	10.7	7,670	392	56
14.5%	**13.1%**	**1,710,752**	**112,479**	**21,130**

Notes and sources on page 70

Notes and Sources

Data were current as we went to press. New data for some of these indicators may have been released since then; we will post these updated data on our web site <http://www.childrensdefense.org>, click on "Data."

Cites to internet sources were accurate when we went to press, but may change.

Page 49: Population

[1]Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, 2000 Census of Population and Housing, Summary File 1, unpublished data. Calculations by Children's Defense Fund.

Page 50: Family Income and Poverty

[1]Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, Census 2000 Supplemental Survey. Calculations by Children's Defense Fund.

[2]Because numbers and rates are based on samples, ranks are estimates. Ranks calculated by Children's Defense Fund.

[3]Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, "Employment status of the civilian population by sex, age, race, and Hispanic origin, 2000 annual averages," at <http://stats.bls.gov/lau/table12full00.pdf>.

[4]Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, "State and Regional Unemployment, 2001 Annual Averages," Press Release USDL 02-97 (February 22, 2002), Table 1.

Page 51: Family Income and Poverty (continued)

[1]Maximum cash assistance for a three-person family with no other income. Where benefits vary by program status, amount shown is for families required to work. Michigan figure is for Wayne County (Detroit). New York figure is for New York City. Vermont figure is for Crittenden County (Burlington). Minnesota figure is the cash portion and excludes an additional $299 paid in lieu of food stamps.

Source: U.S. Congress, Congressional Research Service, "TANF Benefits and Earnings Limits." Calculations by Children's Defense Fund.

[2]Source: State Policy Documentation Project, at <http://www.spdp.org>, downloaded November 14, 2001. Calculations by Children's Defense Fund.

[3]Rent for a two-bedroom apartment in the lowest-cost metropolitan area in each state.

Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Employment Standards Administration, Wage and Hour Division, "Minimum Wage and Overtime Premium Pay Standards Applicable to Nonsupervisory NONFARM Private Sector Employment," Updated/Corrected, January 24, 2001; U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, "2002 Final Fair Market Rents," file FMR2002F.EXE, effective January 1, 2002, posted October 16, 2001 at <http://www.huduser.org/datasets/fmr.html>. Calculations by Children's Defense Fund.

[4]Ranks calculated by Children's Defense Fund.

Page 52: Center-based Child Care Costs vs. Public College Tuition Costs

[1]Average annual costs in a child care center in an urban area; see source for specific urban area in each state. Data not available for the District of Columbia.

Source: Karen Schulman, *The High Cost of Child Care Puts Quality Care Out of Reach for Many Families* (Washington, DC: Children's Defense Fund, 2000), Table A-1.

[2]Annual tuition at a four-year public college or university in the state.

Source: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, *Digest of Education Statistics 2000* (January 2001), Table 314.

[3]Calculations by Children's Defense Fund.

Page 53: Child Care and Development Block Grant

[1]Number of children eligible if state eligibility limits were at the maximum allowed under federal law—85% of the state median family income.

Source: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Child Care Bureau, "Access to Child Care for Low-Income Working Families" (1999), Table 1, at <http://www.acf.dhhs.gov/programs/ccb/research/ccreport/ccreport.htm>.

[2]Average monthly number of children served.

Source: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, "Child Care and Development Block Grant/Child Care and Development Fund" (December 6, 2000), at <http://www.acf.dhhs.gov/news/press/2000/cctable.htm>.

[3]Calculations by Children's Defense Fund.

[4]Income cutoffs as of March 2000; several states have adjusted their cutoffs since then. These income cutoffs are for a family of three when initially qualifying for assistance; some states allow a family already receiving assistance to continue to receive it up to a higher income level. Cutoffs take into account deductions that some states use in calculating family income. In Colorado and Texas, cutoffs were determined at the local level, within state guidelines. In Virginia, there are different cutoffs for each of three regions.

Source: Karen Schulman, Helen Blank, and Danielle Ewen, *A Fragile Foundation: State Child Care Assistance Policies* (Washington, DC: Children's Defense Fund, November 2001), pp. 27-31.

[5]Calculations by Children's Defense Fund.

Page 54: State Prekindergarten Programs and Head Start

[1]N/A = data not available.

Source: Karen Schulman, Helen Blank, and Danielle Ewen, *Seeds of Success: State Prekindergarten Initiatives 1998-99* (Washington, DC: Children's Defense Fund, September 1999).

[2]Nevada did not have a prekindergarten program in 1998-99, when this survey was done, but has since established a small program.

[3]Average monthly enrollment in the federal Head Start program.

Source: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Head Start Bureau, "2002 Head Start Fact Sheet," at <http://www2.acf.dhhs.gov/programs/hsb/research/02_hsfs.htm>.

Page 55: Do States Require Early Childhood Training for Child Care Providers?

[1]Requirements are for child care center teachers and family day care home providers only; states may have different requirements for directors or assistants in child care centers. If a state has requirements for training that are not specified as early childhood (such as first aid/CPR) that can substitute for training in early childhood, it is reported as "No." NA means that a state does not regulate this type of caregiver.

Source: Data compiled by the Wheelock College, Institute for Leadership and Career Initiatives from licensing regulations posted by the National Resource Center for Health and Safety in Child Care at <http://nrc.uchsc.edu>.

Page 56: Health Insurance and Immunization

[1]The U.S. percentage and number of uninsured are from the March 2001 Current Population Survey. The estimated percentage of uninsured children in each state is the average of the percentages of children uninsured during the years 1998-2000. Three-year averages are used because of small sample sizes in some states. The estimated number of uninsured children in each state is calculated by applying that average percentage to the 2000 Census counts of children younger than 19 in each state. Starting in the March 2000 CPS, insurance verification questions were added to the interview. These questions reduced the reported number and percentage of uninsured children by varying amounts in each state. The verification questions were not included in the March 1999 CPS interviews. Therefore, the percentage of uninsured children in each state in that year was adjusted downward using ratios provided by the Census Bureau that reflect the average decrease in the March 2000 and 2001 surveys.

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, March Current Population Surveys, 1999-2001; 2000 Census of Population and Housing, Count of Persons Under 19 by State, Summary File 1. Calculations by the Children's Defense Fund.

[2]Because estimated numbers and percentages are based on samples, ranks are estimates.

[3]Does not include persons younger than 21 who qualify for Medicaid because of disability, pregnancy, or foster care status. U.S. total does not include Virgin Islands or Puerto Rico but does include Mississippi and Nevada.
n/a = data not available.

Source: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, Tables 1 and 3, at <http://www.hcfa.gov/medicaid/msis2082-99.htm>, accessed November 12, 2001.

[4]Enrollment includes all children enrolled in CHIP from October 1, 1999 through September 30, 2000 and does not include title XIX Medicaid enrollment. National totals do not include data from U.S. territories. Minnesota CHIP enrollment cannot be compared with other states; the number of uninsured children eligible for CHIP in Minnesota is extremely small because the state expanded Medicaid for children before CHIP, setting eligibility levels far higher than most state CHIP programs.

Source: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Health Care Financing Administration, "State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP) Aggregate Enrollment Statistics for the 50 States and the District of Columbia for Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2000," at <http://www.hcfa.gov/init/fy2000.pdf>.

Page 57: Health Insurance and Immunization (continued)

[1]— = data not available.

Source: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, unpublished worksheets, FY98REDS.XLS, dated April 4, 2000, and FY01PROJ2.XLS, dated October 10, 2001. Calculations by Children's Defense Fund.

[2]Children 19 to 35 months of age, born between February 1997 and May 1999.

[3]Four or more doses of diphtheria, tetanus, and pertussis (DTP/DT) vaccine, three or more doses of poliovirus vaccine, one or more doses of measles-containing vaccine, and three or more doses of *Haemophilus influenzae* type B (Hib). Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices 1994 guidelines.

Source: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 2000 National Immunization Survey, 4313_RACE-IAP.XLS, at <http://www.cdc.gov/nip/coverage/NIS/00/toc-00.htm>.

[4]Four or more doses of diphtheria, tetanus, and pertussis (DTP/DT) vaccine, three or more doses of poliovirus vaccine, one or more doses of measles-containing vaccine, three or more doses of *Haemophilus influenzae* type B (Hib), and three or more doses of Hepatitis B (HepB). Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices 2002 guidelines.

Source: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 2000 National Immunization Survey, 43133_RACE_IAP.XLS, at <http://www.cdc.gov/nip/coverage/NIS/00/toc-00.htm>.

Page 58: Prenatal Care

[1]Care begun in the first trimester (first three months) of pregnancy.

Source: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, National Center for Health Statistics, *National Vital Statistics Report*, Vol. 49, No. 1 (April 17, 2001), Table 34.

[2]Persons of Hispanic origin can be of any race.

[3]Ranks calculated by Children's Defense Fund.

Page 59: Births to Teens and to Unmarried Women

[1]Number of births per 1,000 females ages 15-19.

Source: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, National Center for Health Statistics, *Monthly Vital Statistics Report*, Vol. 45, No. 5(S) (December 19, 1996), Table 2, and U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, National Center for Health Statistics, *National Vital Statistics Report*, Vol. 49, No. 1 (April 17, 2001), Table 10.

[2]Source: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, National Center for Health Statistics, *Monthly Vital Statistics Report*, Vol. 44, No. 11(S) (June 24, 1996), Table 16, and U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, National Center for Health Statistics, *National Vital Statistics Report*, Vol. 49, No. 1 (April 17, 2001), Table 19.

[3]Ranks calculated by Children's Defense Fund.

Page 60: Low Birthweight

[1]Birth weight of less than 2,500 grams, or 5 lbs. 8 oz. — = number of low birthweight births too small to calculate a reliable rate.

Source: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, National Center for Health Statistics, *National Vital Statistics Report*, Vol. 49, No. 1 (April 17, 2001), Table 46.

[2]Persons of Hispanic origin can be of any race.

[3]Ranks calculated by Children's Defense Fund.

Page 61: Infant Mortality

[1]Infant deaths (under one year of age) per 1,000 live births. — = number of infant deaths too small to calculate a reliable rate.

Source: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, National Center for Health Statistics, *National Vital Statistics Report*, Vol. 49, No. 8 (September 21, 2001), Table 29.

[2]Ranks calculated by Children's Defense Fund.

Page 62: Child Abuse and Neglect

[1]Number of child victims where abuse or neglect is "substantiated" or "indicated." North Dakota reported no victims in either of these categories, but did report child victims "in need of services." Ohio reported child victims in all three of these categories. The number of child victims in Maryland is estimated.

Because definitions and reporting requirements vary from state to state and from year to year, comparisons should not be made between states or across time.

Source: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration on Children, Youth and Families, *Child Maltreatment 1999* (2001), Table 2-2. Calculations by Children's Defense Fund.

[2]Number of child victims per 1,000 children.

Source: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration on Children, Youth and Families, *Child Maltreatment 1999* (2001), Table 2-2.

[3]n/r = data not reported.

Source: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration on Children, Youth and Families, *Child Maltreatment 1999* (2001), Table 2-11. Calculations by Children's Defense Fund.

Page 63: Foster Care, Adoption, and Kinship Care

[1]State numbers are updated as new data become available to AFCARS; therefor the numbers reported here may differ from figures published in *Child Welfare Outcomes 1998: Annual Report* and *Child Welfare Outcomes 1999: Annual Report*, both from U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Children's Bureau. No national totals are presented here because data are missing from 10 states for 1998 and three states for 1999. The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services estimates that there were 581,000 children in foster care as of September 30, 1999.

n/r = data not reported to HHS.

Source: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Children's Bureau, Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS), unpublished data; file transmitted to Children's Defense Fund February 1, 2002.

[2]Source: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Children's Bureau, Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS), "Adoptions of Children with Public Child Welfare Agency Involvement by State, FY 1995 - FY 1999" (May 18, 2001), at <http://www.acf.dhhs.gov/programs/cb/>.

[3]— = number of sample cases too small to calculate reliable estimates.

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, Census 2000 Supplemental Survey, unpublished tabulations. Calculations by Children's Defense Fund.

Page 64: Public School Education

[1]Source: U.S. Department of Education, Office of Elementary and Secondary Education, *State ESEA Title I Participation Information for 1998-99: Final Summary Report* (2001), Table 4. Calculations by Children's Defense Fund.

[2]Includes children ages 3 through 21.

Source: U.S. Department of Education, *To Assure the Free Appropriate Public Education of All Children with Disabilities: Twenty-second Annual Report to Congress on the Implementation of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act* (2000), Table AA1. Calculations by Children's Defense Fund.

[3]N/A = not applicable, state did not participate in the assessment.

Source: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, *NAEP 1998 Reading Report Card for the Nation and the States* (March 1999), Table 5.3. Calculations by Children's Defense Fund.

[4]N/A = not applicable, state did not participate in the assessment.

Source: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, *The Nation's Report Card: Mathematics 2000* (August 2001), Table 2.3. Calculations by Children's Defense Fund.

Page 65: Public School Education (continued)

[1]Source: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, *Digest of Education Statistics 2000* (January 2001), Table 67.

[2]Source: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, *Dropout Rates in the United States: 1999* (November 2000), Table 5.

[3]Current expenditures per pupil in fall enrollment.

Source: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, *Digest of Education Statistics 2000* (January 2001), Table 169.

[4]State expenditures for current operations of state prisons per prisoner; excludes state capital outlays (construction), other state corrections activities (probation, parole, halfway houses, etc.); and expenditures for local jails.

Source: U.S. Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Statistics, *Sourcebook of Criminal Justice Statistics 2000* (2001), Tables 6.35 and 1.9. Calculations by Children's Defense Fund.

[5]Calculations by Children's Defense Fund.

Page 66: Firearms Deaths of Children and Teens

[1]Ages 0-19.

Source: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, National Center for Health Statistics, "Table III. Deaths from 358 selected causes, by 5-year age groups, race, and sex: U.S. and each state, 1999," unpublished tabulation. Calculations by Children's Defense Fund.

Page 67: Youth at Risk

[1]Percent of 18- to 24-year-olds who are not enrolled in school and are not high school graduates.

Source: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, *Dropout Rates in the United States: 1999* (November 2000), Table 5. Calculations by Children's Defense Fund.

[2]n/r = data not reported.

Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, "Employment status of the civilian population by sex, age, race, and Hispanic origin, 2000 annual averages," at <http://stats.bls.gov/lau/table12full00.pdf>.

[3]Number of arrests reported to the FBI; not all jurisdictions in a state report to the FBI. n/r = data not reported for state.

Source: U.S. Department of Justice, Federal Bureau of Investigation, *Crime in the United States, 2000* (2001), revised Table 69, at <http://www.fbi.gov/ucr/cius_00/revt69_pd.pdf>.

[4]Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, 2000 Census of Population and Housing, Summary File 1, unpublished data. Calculations by Children's Defense Fund.

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